Senate



General Assembly

File No. 579

February Session, 2018

Substitute Senate Bill No. 397

Senate, April 19, 2018

The Committee on Judiciary reported through SEN. DOYLE of the 9th Dist. and SEN. KISSEL of the 7th Dist., Chairpersons of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING ADOPTION OF THE UNIFORM TRUST CODE, THE CONNECTICUT UNIFORM DIRECTED TRUST ACT AND THE CONNECTICUT QUALIFIED DISPOSITIONS IN TRUST ACT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) This section and sections
- 2 to 87, inclusive, of this act may be cited as the "Connecticut Uniform
- 3 Trust Code".
- 4 Sec. 2. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) Sections 1 to 113, inclusive,
- 5 of this act apply to express trusts, whether testamentary or inter vivos,
- 6 and trusts created pursuant to a statute, judgment or decree that
- 7 requires the trust to be administered in the manner of an express trust
- 8 and to charitable trusts, except sections 1 to 113, inclusive, of this act
- 9 shall not apply to statutory trusts created pursuant to chapter 615 of
- 10 the general statutes.
- 11 Sec. 3. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) As used in sections 1 to 105,

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- 12 inclusive, of this act:
- 13 (1) "Action", with respect to an act of a trustee, includes a failure to act.
- 15 (2) "Ascertainable standard" means a standard relating to an individual's health, education, support or maintenance within the meaning of Section 2041(b)(1)(A) or 2514(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time, as in effect on October 1, 2018, or as later amended.
- 21 (3) "Beneficiary" means a person that (A) has a present or future 22 beneficial interest in a trust, vested or contingent, or (B) in a capacity 23 other than that of trustee, holds a power of appointment over trust 24 property. "Beneficiary" does not include an appointee under a power 25 of appointment unless and until the power is exercised and the trustee 26 has knowledge of the exercise and the identity of the appointee.
- 27 (4) "Breach of trust" includes a violation by a trust director or trustee 28 of a duty imposed on that director or trustee by the terms of the trust, 29 sections 1 to 105, inclusive, of this act or any other law of this state 30 pertaining to trusts.
- 31 (5) "Directed trust" means a trust for which the terms of the trust 32 grant a power of direction.
- 33 (6) "Directed trustee" means a trustee that is subject to a trust director's power of direction.
- 35 (7) "Charitable trust" means a trust, or portion of a trust, created for 36 a charitable purpose described in section 26 of this act that is created 37 when property is dedicated for a charitable purpose, whether the 38 dedication is by written instrument, declaration, deed, pledge, 39 judgment or decree.
- 40 (8) "Current beneficiary" means a beneficiary that, on the date the 41 beneficiary's qualification is determined, is a distributee or permissible

- 42 distributee of trust income or principal.
- 43 (9) "Conservator of the estate" means a person appointed by the 44 court pursuant to sections 45a-644 to 45a-663, inclusive, of the general 45 statutes to administer the estate of an adult individual.
- 46 (10) "Environmental law" means a federal, state or local law, rule, 47 regulation or ordinance relating to protection of the environment.
- (11) "Conservator of the person" means a person appointed by the court pursuant to sections 45a-644 to 45a-663, inclusive, of the general statutes to make decisions regarding the support, care, education, health and welfare of an adult individual and includes a conservator of the person of an adult, but does not include a guardian ad litem.
- 53 (12) "Inter vivos trust" means any trust that is not a testamentary trust.
- 55 (13) "Interests of the beneficiaries" means the beneficial interests 56 provided in the terms of the trust.
- 57 (14) "Jurisdiction", with respect to a geographic area, includes a state 58 or country.
- 59 (15) "Mandatory distribution" means a distribution of income or 60 principal that the trustee is required to make to a beneficiary under the 61 terms of the trust, including a distribution upon termination of the 62 trust. "Mandatory distribution" does not include a distribution subject 63 to the exercise of the trustee's discretion, regardless of whether the 64 terms of the trust (A) include a support or other standard to guide the 65 trustee in making distribution decisions, or (B) provide that the trustee 66 "shall" make discretionary distributions, including "may" 67 distributions pursuant to a support standard or other standard.
- 68 (16) "Permissible distributee" means a beneficiary that is currently 69 entitled to or eligible to receive a distribution from a trust.
- 70 (17) "Person" means an individual, corporation, statutory or

business trust, estate, trust, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint venture, court, government, governmental subdivision, agency or instrumentality, public corporation or any other legal or commercial entity.

- (18) "Power of direction" means a power over a trust granted to a person by the terms of the trust to the extent the power is exercisable while the person is not serving as a trustee. "Power of direction" includes a power over the investment, management, or distribution of trust property or other matters of trust administration, but does not include the powers described in subsection (b) of section 91 of this act.
- 81 (19) "Power of withdrawal" means a presently exercisable general 82 power of appointment other than a power exercisable only upon 83 consent of the trustee or a person holding an adverse interest.
- (20) "Property" means anything that may be the subject of ownership, whether real or personal and whether legal or equitable, or any interest in such property.
 - (21) "Qualified beneficiary" means a beneficiary that, on the date the beneficiary's qualification is determined: (A) Is a distributee or permissible distributee of trust income or principal; (B) would be a distributee or permissible distributee of trust income or principal if the interests of the distributees described in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision terminated on such date without causing the trust to terminate; or (C) would be a distributee or permissible distributee of trust income or principal if the trust terminated on such date.
 - (22) "Revocable", as applied to a trust, means revocable by the settlor without the consent of the trustee or a person holding an adverse interest.
 - (23) "Settlor" means a person, including a testator, that creates or contributes property to a trust. If more than one person creates or contributes property to a trust, each person is a settlor of the portion of the trust property attributable to such person's contribution, except to

the extent another person has the power to revoke or withdraw such portion and as otherwise provided in section 46 of this act.

- 104 (24) "Spendthrift provision" means a term of a trust that restrains 105 both voluntary and involuntary transfer of a beneficiary's interest.
- 106 (25) "State" means a state of the United States, the District of 107 Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands or any 108 territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United 109 States, and includes an Indian tribe or band recognized by federal law
- 111 (26) "Terms of a trust" means:

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- 112 (A) The manifestation of the settlor's intent regarding a trust's provisions as:
- (i) Expressed in the trust instrument; or

or formally acknowledged by a state.

- (ii) Established by other evidence that would be admissible in a judicial proceeding; or
- 117 (B) The trust's provisions, as established, determined or amended 118 by:
- (i) A trustee or trust director in accordance with applicable law;
- 120 (ii) Court order; or
- 121 (iii) A nonjudicial settlement agreement under section 11 of this act.
- 122 (27) "Testamentary trust" means a trust created under a will.
 - (28) "Trust director" means a person that is granted a power of direction by the terms of a trust to the extent the power is exercisable while the person is not serving as a trustee, provided a person is a trust director whether or not the terms of the trust refer to the person as a trust director and whether or not the person is a beneficiary or settlor of the trust.

(29) "Trust instrument" means any instrument executed by the settlor that contains terms of the trust, including any amendments thereto. In the case of a charitable trust, "trust instrument" means any written instrument by which property is dedicated for a charitable purpose described in section 26 of this act.

- 134 (30) "Trustee" includes an original, additional and successor trustee 135 and a cotrustee.
- Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) Subject to subsection (b) of this section, for the purposes of sections 1 to 105, inclusive, of this act, a person has knowledge of a fact if the person (1) has actual knowledge of the fact, (2) has received a notice or notification of the fact, or (3) from all the facts and circumstances known to the person at the time in question, has reason to know the fact.
 - (b) An organization that conducts activities through employees has notice or knowledge of a fact involving a trust only from the time the information was received by an employee having responsibility to act for the trust, or from the time the information would have been brought to the employee's attention if the organization had exercised reasonable diligence. An organization exercises reasonable diligence if it maintains reasonable routines for communicating significant information to the employee having responsibility to act for the trust and there is reasonable compliance with the routines. Reasonable diligence does not require an employee of the organization to communicate information unless the communication is part of the employee's regular duties or the employee knows a matter involving the trust would be materially affected by the information.
 - Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) Except as otherwise provided in the terms of the trust, sections 1 to 105, inclusive, of this act govern the duties and powers of a trustee, relations among trustees and the rights and interests of a beneficiary.
 - (b) The terms of a trust prevail over any provision of sections 1 to 105, inclusive, of this act except: (1) The requirements for creating a

trust; (2) the duty of a trustee to act in good faith and in accordance with the terms and purposes of the trust; (3) the requirement of section 25 of this act that a trust have a purpose that is lawful, not contrary to public policy; (4) the power of the court to modify or terminate a trust under sections 30 to 37, inclusive, of this act; (5) the effect of a spendthrift provision and the rights of certain creditors and assignees to reach a trust as provided in sections 39 to 46, inclusive, of this act; (6) the power of the court under section 52 of this act to require, dispense with, modify or terminate a bond; (7) the power of the court under section 58 of this act to adjust a trustee's compensation specified in the terms of the trust that is unreasonably low or high; (8) the effect of an exculpatory term under section 80 of this act; (9) the rights under sections 82 to 85, inclusive, of this act of a person other than a trustee or beneficiary; (10) periods of limitation for commencing a judicial proceeding; and (11) the power of the court to take such action and exercise such jurisdiction as may be necessary in the interests of justice.

Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) The common law of trusts and principles of equity supplement sections 1 to 113, inclusive, of this act, except to the extent modified by sections 1 to 113, inclusive, of this act or another provision of the general statutes.

Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) The meaning and effect of the terms of a trust are determined by: (1) The law of the jurisdiction designated in the terms of the trust, unless the designation of such jurisdiction's law is contrary to a strong public policy of the jurisdiction having the most significant relationship to the matter at issue; or (2) in the absence of a controlling designation in the terms of the trust, the law of the jurisdiction having the most significant relationship to the matter at issue.

Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) Without precluding other means for establishing a sufficient connection with the designated jurisdiction, terms of a trust designating the principal place of administration are valid and controlling if: (1) A trustee's principal place of business is located in, or a trustee is a resident of, the

designated jurisdiction; (2) a trust director's principal place of business is located in, or a trust director is a resident of, the designated jurisdiction; or (3) all or part of the administration occurs in the designated jurisdiction.

- 198 (b) A trustee is under a continuing duty to administer the trust at a 199 place appropriate to its purposes, its administration and the interests 200 of the beneficiaries.
 - (c) Without precluding the right of the court to order, approve or disapprove a transfer, the trustee of an inter vivos trust, and the trustee of a testamentary trust with court approval, in furtherance of the duty prescribed by subsection (b) of this section, may transfer the trust's principal place of administration to another state or to a jurisdiction outside of the United States. A charitable trust may not be transferred to a jurisdiction outside of the United States.
- 208 (d) The trustee shall notify the qualified beneficiaries of a proposed 209 transfer of a trust's principal place of administration not less than sixty 210 days prior to the date of initiating the transfer. The notice of proposed 211 transfer shall include:
- 212 (1) The name of the jurisdiction to which the principal place of 213 administration is to be transferred;
- (2) The address and telephone number at the new location at which the trustee can be contacted;
- 216 (3) An explanation of the reasons for the proposed transfer;
- 217 (4) The date on which the proposed transfer is anticipated to occur; 218 and
- 219 (5) The date, not less than sixty days after the giving of the notice, 220 by which the qualified beneficiary shall notify the trustee of an 221 objection to the proposed transfer.
- (e) The authority of a trustee under this section to transfer a trust's

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principal place of administration shall terminate if a qualified beneficiary notifies the trustee of an objection to the proposed transfer on or before the date specified in the notice.

- (f) In connection with a transfer of the trust's principal place of administration, the trustee may transfer some or all of the trust property to a successor trustee designated in the terms of the trust or appointed pursuant to section 54 of this act.
- Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) Notice to a person under sections 1 to 113, inclusive, of this act, or the sending of a document to a person under sections 1 to 113, inclusive, of this act, shall be accomplished in a manner reasonably suitable under the circumstances and likely to result in receipt of the notice or document. Permissible methods of notice or for sending a document include first-class mail, personal delivery, delivery to the person's last known place of residence or place of business, or a properly directed electronic message, if the person has consented in advance to receive notices or documents by electronic message.
- (b) Notice otherwise required under sections 1 to 113, inclusive, of this act, or a document otherwise required to be sent under sections 1 to 113, inclusive, of this act, need not be provided to a person whose identity or location is unknown to and not reasonably ascertainable by the trustee.
- (c) Notice under sections 1 to 113, inclusive, of this act, or the sending of a document under sections 1 to 113, inclusive, of this act, may be waived by the person to be notified or to be sent the document.
- (d) Notice of a judicial proceeding shall be given as provided in anyapplicable court rules.
- Sec. 10. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) Whenever notice to qualified beneficiaries of a trust is required under sections 1 to 113, inclusive, of this act, the trustee shall also give notice to any other beneficiary who has sent the trustee a request for notice.

(b) A charitable organization expressly designated to receive distributions under the terms of a charitable trust has the rights of a qualified beneficiary under sections 1 to 113, inclusive, of this act if the charitable organization, on the date the charitable organization's qualification is being determined: (1) Is a distributee or permissible distributee of trust income or principal; (2) would be a distributee or permissible distributee of trust income or principal upon the termination of the interests of other distributees or permissible distributees then receiving or eligible to receive distributions; or (3) would be a distributee or permissible distributee of trust income or principal if the trust terminated on such date.

- (c) The Attorney General has the rights of a qualified beneficiary with respect to a charitable trust having its principal place of administration in this state.
- (d) A person appointed to enforce a trust created for the care of an animal under section 45a-489a of the general statutes, or another noncharitable purpose as provided in section 29 of this act, has the rights of a qualified beneficiary under sections 1 to 113, inclusive, of this act.
- (e) A charitable organization shall only be granted the rights of a qualified beneficiary under this section if its interest in a charitable trust is not otherwise subject to any power of appointment, removal or any other power of termination on the date that its qualification is otherwise determined under this section.
- Sec. 11. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) For the purposes of this section, "interested persons" means persons whose consent would be required in order to achieve a binding settlement were the settlement to be approved by the court.
- (b) Except as provided in subsections (c) and (e) of this section, interested persons may enter into a binding nonjudicial settlement agreement with respect to any matter involving an inter vivos trust.

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(c) A nonjudicial settlement agreement is valid only to the extent it does not violate a material purpose of the trust and includes terms and conditions that could be properly approved by the court under sections 1 to 113, inclusive, of this act or other applicable law.

- (d) Matters that may be resolved by a nonjudicial settlement agreement include: (1) The interpretation or construction of the terms of the trust; (2) the approval of a trustee's report or accounting; (3) direction to a trustee to refrain from performing a particular act or the grant to a trustee of any necessary or desirable power; (4) the resignation or appointment of a trustee and the determination of a trustee's compensation; (5) transfer of a trust's principal place of administration; and (6) liability of a trustee for an action relating to the trust.
- (e) A nonjudicial settlement agreement may not modify or terminate an irrevocable trust. Such modification or termination may only be accomplished under the provisions of sections 30 to 37, inclusive, of this act.
- (f) Any interested person may request the court to approve a nonjudicial settlement agreement, to determine whether the representation as provided in sections 17 to 21, inclusive, of this act was adequate, and to determine whether the agreement contains terms and conditions the court can properly approve.
- Sec. 12. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) A trustee has an insurable interest in the life of an individual insured under a life insurance policy that is owned by the trustee or that designates the trust itself as the owner if, on the date the policy is issued:
- 311 (1) The insured is: (A) A settlor of the trust; or (B) an individual in 312 whom a settlor of the trust has, or would have had if living at the time 313 the policy was issued, an insurable interest; and
- 314 (2) The life insurance proceeds are primarily for the benefit of one or 315 more trust beneficiaries that have: (A) An insurable interest in the life

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316 of the insured; or (B) a substantial interest engendered by love and

- 317 affection in the continuation of the life of the insured and, if not
- 318 already included under subdivision (1) of this section, who are: (i)
- Related within the third degree or closer, as measured by the civil law
- 320 system of determining degrees of relation, either by blood or law, to
- 321 the insured; or (ii) stepchildren of the insured.
- Sec. 13. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) A testamentary trust is
- 323 subject to continuing judicial supervision until the administration of
- 324 the trust is transferred to another state pursuant to other law of this
- 325 state.
- 326 (b) An inter vivos trust is not subject to continuing judicial
- 327 supervision.
- 328 Sec. 14. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) By accepting the
- 329 trusteeship of a trust having its principal place of administration in this
- state, or by moving the principal place of administration to this state,
- 331 the trustee submits personally to the jurisdiction of the courts of this
- 332 state regarding any matter involving the trust.
- 333 (b) With respect to their interests in the trust, the beneficiaries of a
- trust having its principal place of administration in this state are
- 335 subject to the jurisdiction of the courts of this state regarding any
- 336 matter involving the trust. By accepting a distribution from such a
- trust, the recipient submits personally to the jurisdiction of the courts
- of this state regarding any matter involving the trust.
- 339 (c) This section shall not preclude other methods of obtaining
- 340 jurisdiction over a trustee, beneficiary or other person receiving
- 341 property from the trust.
- Sec. 15. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) Subject matter jurisdiction
- 343 for a proceeding under sections 1 to 113, inclusive, of this act shall be
- 344 determined under other law of this state.
- Sec. 16. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) Venue for a proceeding
- under sections 1 to 113, inclusive, of this act shall be determined under

- 347 other law of this state.
- Sec. 17. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) Notice to a person who
- may represent and bind another person under this section and sections
- 350 18 to 21, inclusive, of this act has the same effect as if notice were given
- 351 directly to such other person.
- 352 (b) The consent of a person who may represent and bind another
- 353 person under this section and sections 18 to 21, inclusive, of this act is
- 354 binding on the person represented unless the person represented
- objects to the representation before the consent would otherwise have
- 356 become effective.
- 357 (c) Except as provided in section 48 of this act, a person that,
- 358 pursuant to this section and sections 18 to 21, inclusive, of this act, may
- 359 represent a settlor who lacks capacity may receive notice and give a
- 360 binding consent on the settlor's behalf.
- 361 (d) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, this
- section and sections 18 to 21, inclusive, of this act shall apply to all
- 363 judicial proceedings and all nonjudicial settlements, agreements or
- actions under sections 1 to 113, inclusive, of this act and under any
- other provisions of the general statutes pertaining to trust matters.
- 366 (e) As used in this section, "represent" shall not be construed to
- 367 permit a person who has not been admitted as an attorney pursuant to
- section 51-80 of the general statutes to serve as legal counsel for any
- other person in any matter arising under sections 1 to 113, inclusive, of
- 370 this act.
- Sec. 18. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) To the extent there is no
- 372 conflict of interest between the holder of a power of appointment and
- 373 the persons represented with respect to the particular question or
- 374 dispute: (1) The sole holder or all coholders of any power of
- appointment, whether or not presently exercisable, shall represent the
- potential appointees; and (2) the sole holder or all coholders of a power
- of revocation or a general power of appointment, including one in the

form of a power of amendment, shall also represent the takers in default of the exercise thereof.

Sec. 19. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) To the extent there is no conflict of interest between the representative and the person represented or among those being represented with respect to a particular question or dispute: (1) A conservator may represent and bind the estate that the conservator controls; (2) a guardian may represent and bind the ward if a conservator of the ward's estate has not been appointed; (3) an agent having authority to do so may represent and bind the principal; (4) a trustee may represent and bind the beneficiaries of the trust; (5) an executor or administrator of a decedent's estate may represent and bind persons interested in the estate; and (6) if a conservator or guardian has not been appointed, a parent may represent and bind the parent's minor or unborn child.

Sec. 20. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) Unless otherwise represented, a minor, an incapacitated or unborn individual, or a person whose identity or location is unknown and not reasonably ascertainable, may be represented by and bound by another person having a substantially identical interest with respect to the particular question or dispute, but only to the extent there is no conflict of interest between the representative and the person being represented.

Sec. 21. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) If the court determines that an interest is not represented pursuant to this section and sections 17 to 20, inclusive, of this act, or that the otherwise available representation might be inadequate, the court may appoint a guardian ad litem to receive notice, give consent, and otherwise represent, bind and act on behalf of a minor, an incapacitated or unborn individual, or a person whose identity or location is unknown. A guardian ad litem may be appointed to represent several persons or interests.

(b) A guardian ad litem may act on behalf of the individual represented with respect to any matter arising under sections 1 to 113, inclusive, of this act, whether or not a judicial proceeding concerning the trust is pending.

(c) In making decisions in any matter, a guardian ad litem may consider general benefit accruing to the living members of the individual's family.

- Sec. 22. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) A trust may be created by: 414 415 (1) Transfer of property to another person as trustee during the 416 settlor's lifetime, by deed or otherwise, or by will or other disposition 417 taking effect upon the settlor's death; (2) declaration by the owner of property that the owner holds identifiable property as trustee; (3) 418 419 exercise of a power of appointment in favor of a trustee; (4) transfer of 420 property pursuant to a statute or judgment that requires property to be 421 administered in the manner of an express trust, including, but not 422 limited to, a trust created by the guardian of the estate of a minor or by
- the conservator of an estate, or a trust described in 42 USC 1396p(d)(4),
- as amended from time to time; or (5) court order.
- Sec. 23. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) A trust is created only if:
- 426 (1) The settlor has capacity to create a trust;
- 427 (2) The settlor indicates an intention to create the trust;
- 428 (3) The trust has a definite beneficiary or is (A) a charitable trust, (B) 429 a trust for the care of an animal, as provided in section 45a-489a of the 430 general statutes, or (C) a trust for a noncharitable purpose, as provided 431 in section 29 of this act; and
- 432 (4) The trustee has duties to perform.
- (b) A beneficiary is definite if the beneficiary can be ascertained now or in the future, subject to any applicable rule against perpetuities.
- (c) A power in a trustee to select a beneficiary from an indefinite class is valid. If the power is not exercised within a reasonable time, the power fails and the property subject to the power passes to the persons who would have taken the property had the power not been conferred.

(d) The settlor's power to create or contribute to a trust may be exercised by (1) an agent under a power of attorney only to the extent expressly authorized to create or contribute property to a trust, or (2) by a conservator of the estate as authorized by the court.

- Sec. 24. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) An inter vivos trust is validly created if its creation complies with the law of the jurisdiction in which the trust instrument was executed, or the law of the jurisdiction in which, at the time of creation: (1) The settlor was domiciled, had a place of abode or was a national; (2) a trustee was domiciled or had a place of business; or (3) any trust property was located.
- Sec. 25. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) A trust may be created only to the extent its purposes are lawful and not contrary to public policy.
- Sec. 26. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) A charitable trust may be created for the relief of poverty, the advancement of education or religion, the promotion of health, governmental or municipal purposes or other purposes the achievement of which is beneficial to the community, consistent with the provisions of sections 45a-514 and 47-2 of the general statutes.
 - (b) If the terms of a charitable trust do not indicate a particular charitable purpose or beneficiary, and if the trustee is not given discretion to select the charitable beneficiaries consistent with the provisions of section 45a-515 of the general statutes, the court may select one or more charitable purposes or beneficiaries. The selection shall be consistent with the settlor's intention to the extent it can be ascertained.
- 466 (c) The settlor of a charitable trust, among others, may maintain a 467 proceeding to enforce the trust, but only if the settlor has expressly 468 retained the right to do so in the trust instrument.
- Sec. 27. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) A trust or a provision of a trust is void to the extent its creation was induced by fraud, duress or

- 471 undue influence.
- Sec. 28. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) Except as required by any
- 473 provision of the general statutes other than sections 1 to 113, inclusive,
- of this act, a trust need not be evidenced by a trust instrument, but the
- creation of an oral trust and its terms may be established only by clear
- and convincing evidence.
- Sec. 29. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) Except as provided in
- 478 section 45a-489a of the general statutes or any other applicable
- 479 provision of the general statutes, the following rules apply to a trust
- 480 created pursuant to this section:
- 481 (1) A trust may be created for a noncharitable purpose without a
- definite or definitely ascertainable beneficiary or for a noncharitable
- but otherwise valid purpose to be selected by the trustee. The trust
- 484 may not be enforced for more than ninety years.
- 485 (2) A trust authorized by this section may be enforced by a person
- appointed in the terms of the trust or, if no person is so appointed, by a
- person appointed by the court.
- 488 (3) Property of a trust authorized by this section may be applied
- only to its intended use, except to the extent the court determines that
- 490 the value of the trust property exceeds the amount required for the
- intended use. Except as otherwise provided in the terms of the trust,
- 492 property not required for the intended use shall be distributed to the
- settlor, if then living, otherwise to the settlor's successors in interest.
- Sec. 30. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) In addition to the
- 495 methods of termination prescribed by section 35 of this act, a
- 496 noncharitable trust terminates to the extent the trust is revoked or
- 497 expires pursuant to its terms, no purpose of the trust remains to be
- achieved or the purposes of the trust have become unlawful, contrary
- 499 to public policy or impossible to achieve. A charitable trust may be
- terminated only in accordance with the provisions of section 45a-520 of
- 501 the general statutes.

(b) A proceeding to approve or disapprove a proposed modification or termination under sections 33 to 35, inclusive, of this act, or trust combination or division under section 38 of this act, may be commenced by a trustee or beneficiary and, with respect to a charitable trust, by the Attorney General. The settlor of a charitable trust that has expressly retained the right to do so in the trust instrument may maintain a proceeding to modify the trust under section 33 of this act.

- Sec. 31. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) If, upon petition, the court finds that the settlor and all qualified beneficiaries consent to the modification or termination of a noncharitable irrevocable trust, or of a charitable trust whose settlor has expressly retained the right to do so in the trust instrument, the court may approve the modification or termination even if the modification or termination is inconsistent with a material purpose of the trust. A settlor's power to consent to a trust's modification or termination may be exercised by (1) an agent under a power of attorney only to the extent expressly authorized by the power of attorney or the terms of the trust; or (2) the settlor's conservator with the approval of the court supervising the conservatorship. This subsection shall not apply to irrevocable trusts created before, or to revocable trusts that become irrevocable prior to, October 1, 2018.
- (b) A noncharitable irrevocable trust may be terminated or modified upon consent of the trustee and all of the qualified beneficiaries if the court concludes that the termination or modification is not inconsistent with a material purpose of the trust and the probable intent of the settlor.
- 527 (c) A spendthrift provision in the terms of the trust is not presumed 528 to constitute a material purpose of the trust.
- 529 (d) Upon termination of a trust under subsection (a) or (b) of this 530 section, the trustee shall distribute the trust property as agreed by the 531 beneficiaries.
 - (e) If the trustee consents but not all of the beneficiaries consent to a proposed modification or termination of the trust under subsection (a)

or (b) of this section, the modification or termination may be approved by the court if the court is satisfied that:

- 536 (1) If all of the beneficiaries had consented, the trust could have 537 been modified or terminated under this section; and
- 538 (2) The interests of a beneficiary who does not consent will be 339 adequately protected.
- (f) In any proceeding under this section, the trustee shall be named an interested party.
- Sec. 32. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) The court may modify the administrative or dispositive terms of a noncharitable trust or terminate the noncharitable trust if, because of circumstances not anticipated by the settlor, modification or termination will further the purposes of the trust. To the extent practicable, the modification shall be made in accordance with the settlor's probable intention.
- (b) The court may modify the administrative terms of a trust if continuation of the trust on its existing terms would be impracticable or wasteful or impair the trust's administration.
- (c) Upon termination of a trust under this section, the trustee shall distribute the trust property in a manner consistent with the purposes of the trust.
- 554 (d) For the purposes of this section, "circumstances not anticipated 555 by the settlor" does not include a change in the corporate identity of a 556 trustee.
 - Sec. 33. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) Except as provided in section 34 of this act, if a particular charitable purpose becomes impossible, impracticable or illegal: (1) The trust does not fail, in whole or in part; (2) the trust property does not revert to the settlor or the settlor's successors in interest; and (3) the court may apply cy pres to modify the trust by directing that the trust property be applied or distributed, in whole or in part, in a manner consistent with the

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564 settlor's charitable purposes.

Sec. 34. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) A provision in the terms of a charitable trust that would result in distribution of the trust property to a noncharitable beneficiary prevails over the power of the court under section 33 of this act to apply cy pres to modify or terminate the trust only if, when the provision takes effect: (1) Except as provided in section 45a-505 of the general statutes, the trust property is to revert to the settlor and the settlor is still living; or (2) fewer than twenty-one years have elapsed since the date of the trust's creation.

- Sec. 35. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) If trust property has a total value of less than two hundred thousand dollars and after notice to the qualified beneficiaries, the trustee of a testamentary noncharitable trust who obtains court approval, or the trustee of an inter vivos noncharitable trust, with or without court approval, may terminate the trust if such trustee concludes that the termination is not inconsistent with the probable intent of the settlor and the value or character of the trust property is insufficient or inappropriate to justify the cost of administration.
- (b) The court may modify or terminate a trust or remove the trustee and appoint a different trustee if the total value of the trust property is less than the amount specified in subsection (a) of this section.
- (c) Upon termination of a trust under this section, the trustee shall distribute the trust property in a manner consistent with the purposes of the trust.
- (d) This section shall not apply to an easement for conservation or preservation.
 - Sec. 36. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) The court may reform the terms of a trust, even if unambiguous, to conform the terms to the settlor's intention if it is proved by clear and convincing evidence what the settlor's intention was and that the terms of the trust were affected by a mistake of fact or law, whether in expression or inducement.

Sec. 37. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) To achieve the settlor's tax objectives, the court may modify the terms of a trust in a manner that is not contrary to the settlor's probable intention. The court may provide that the modification has retroactive effect.

- Sec. 38. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) After notice to the current beneficiaries, a trustee may combine two or more trusts into a single trust or divide a trust into two or more separate trusts, if the result does not impair rights of any beneficiary or adversely affect achievement of the purposes of the trust.
- Sec. 39. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) To the extent a beneficiary's interest in a trust is not subject to a spendthrift provision, except as provided in this section and sections 40 to 46, inclusive, of this act, the court may authorize a creditor or assignee of the beneficiary to reach the beneficiary's interest by attachment of present or future distributions to or for the benefit of the beneficiary. The court may limit the award to such relief as is appropriate under the circumstances, provided the court may not grant relief beyond the attachment of present or future distributions.
 - (b) (1) A trustee of a charitable trust and a person holding and administering an endowment fund or an institutional fund, as defined in section 45a-535a of the general statutes, shall not mortgage, hypothecate, pledge, use as collateral or otherwise encumber any of the following assets of such charitable trust, endowment fund or institutional fund, if the source of the asset was a charitable gift: (A) Funds for which expenditures are restricted by the settlor for a purpose other than the general purposes of a charity or institution; and (B) the principal or corpus of a charitable trust or institutional fund for which such principal or corpus is restricted to investment or endowment purposes.
 - (2) No creditor, receiver appointed pursuant to chapter 920 of the general statutes, or trustee appointed under Title 11 of the United States Code may attach, garnish, lien or otherwise use funds subject to the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection for the purpose of

applying such asset to payment of a charitable beneficiary's debt or including such asset in the receivership or bankruptcy estate.

- Sec. 40. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) A spendthrift provision
- 631 is valid only if it restrains both voluntary and involuntary transfer of a
- beneficiary's interest. A provision in the terms of the trust permitting
- 633 the voluntary transfer of a beneficiary's interest, but only with the
- consent of another person or entity, including the trustee, specified in
- 635 the terms of the trust, shall be deemed to be an acceptable restraint on
- 636 voluntary transfer.
- (b) A term of a trust providing that the interest of a beneficiary is
- 638 held subject to a "spendthrift trust", or words of similar import, is
- 639 sufficient to restrain both voluntary and involuntary transfer of the
- 640 beneficiary's interest.
- (c) A beneficiary may not transfer an interest in a trust in violation
- of a valid spendthrift provision and, except as provided in sections 39
- 643 to 46, inclusive, of this act, a creditor or assignee of the beneficiary may
- not reach the interest or a distribution by the trustee before its receipt
- 645 by the beneficiary.
- Sec. 41. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) As used in this section
- and section 42 of this act, "child" includes any person for whom an
- order or judgment for child support has been entered in this or another
- 649 state.
- (b) A spendthrift provision is valid even though a beneficiary is
- named as the sole trustee or as a cotrustee of the trust.
- (c) A spendthrift provision is enforceable against a former spouse of
- 653 a beneficiary.
- (d) Even if a trust contains a spendthrift provision, a beneficiary's
- 655 child who has a judgment or court order against the beneficiary for
- 656 support or maintenance may obtain from a court an order attaching
- 657 present or future distributions to or for the benefit of the beneficiary,
- but only if distributions can be made for the beneficiary's support

under the terms of the trust.

- Sec. 42. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 43 of this act or subsection (b) of this section, whether or not a trust contains a spendthrift provision, a creditor of a beneficiary may not compel a distribution that is subject to the trustee's discretion, even if: (1) The discretion is expressed in the form of a standard of distribution; or (2) the trustee has abused the discretion.
 - (b) To the extent a trustee has not complied with a standard of distribution or has abused a discretion: (1) A distribution may be ordered by the court to satisfy a judgment or court order against the beneficiary for support or maintenance of the beneficiary's child; and (2) the court may direct the trustee to pay to the child only such amount as is equitable under the circumstances, but in no event more than the amount the trustee would have been required to distribute to or for the benefit of the beneficiary had the trustee complied with the standard or not abused the discretion.
 - (c) This section shall not limit any preexisting right of a beneficiary to maintain a judicial proceeding against a trustee for an abuse of discretion or failure to comply with a standard for distribution.
- (d) With respect to the powers set forth in section 46 of this act, the provisions of this section shall apply even though the beneficiary is the sole trustee or a cotrustee of the trust.
- Sec. 43. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) Whether or not the terms of a trust contain a spendthrift provision, and except as provided in sections 106 to 112, inclusive, of this act, the following rules apply:
- (1) During the lifetime of the settlor, the property of a revocable trust is subject to claims of the settlor's creditors.
 - (2) Except as provided in subdivisions (4) and (5) of this subsection, with respect to an irrevocable trust, a creditor or assignee of the settlor may reach the maximum amount that can be distributed to or for the

benefit of the settlor. If a trust has more than one settlor, the amount the creditor or assignee of a particular settlor may reach may not exceed the settlor's interest in the portion of the trust attributable to such settlor's contribution.

- (3) With respect to a trust created pursuant to 42 USC 1396p(d)(4)(A) or (C), as amended from time to time, after notice to the creditor and the state, the court may limit the award to a creditor of the settlor under subdivision (1) or (2) of this subsection to such relief as is appropriate under the circumstances, considering, among any other factors determined to be appropriate by the court, the supplemental needs of the beneficiary.
- (4) A creditor or assignee of the settlor may not reach the assets of an irrevocable trust, in whole or in part, solely because of the existence of a discretionary power granted to the trustee by the terms of the trust, or any other provision of law, to pay directly to the taxing authorities or to reimburse the settlor for any tax on trust income or principal which is payable by the settlor under the law imposing such tax.
- (5) A creditor or assignee of a settlor may not reach the assets of an irrevocable trust except in accordance with the terms of the trust instrument if (A) all of the settlors of the trust are commercial entities organized to conduct business activities; (B) at least one trustee is a commercial entity organized to conduct business activities; and (C) the trust is created by contract in order to facilitate a business purpose of the settlors.
- (b) For the purposes of this section: (1) Except as provided in section 46 of this act, during the period the power may be exercised, the holder of a power of withdrawal is treated in the same manner as the settlor of a revocable trust to the extent of the property subject to the power; and (2) upon the lapse, release or waiver of the power, the holder is treated as the settlor of the trust only to the extent the value of the property affected by the lapse, release or waiver exceeds the greater of the amount specified in Section 2041(b)(2) or 2514(e) of the Internal

723 Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal

- 724 revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time, and
- 725 the regulations adopted thereunder, or Section 2503(b) of said Internal
- Revenue Code and the regulations adopted thereunder, in each case as
- in effect on October 1, 2018.
- 728 Sec. 44. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) Except as provided in
- section 46 of this act, whether or not a trust contains a spendthrift
- 730 provision, a creditor or assignee of a beneficiary may reach a
- 731 mandatory distribution of income or principal, including a distribution
- 732 upon termination of the trust, if the trustee has not made the
- 733 distribution to the beneficiary within a reasonable time after the
- 734 mandated distribution date.
- 735 Sec. 45. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) Trust property shall not be
- 736 subject to personal obligations of the trustee, even if the trustee
- 737 becomes insolvent or bankrupt.
- 738 Sec. 46. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) For all purposes under
- 739 this section and sections 39 to 45, inclusive, of this act, whether or not a
- 740 trust contains a spendthrift provision, a creditor of a beneficiary, other
- 741 than a creditor of the settlor if the settlor is a beneficiary of the trust,
- may not attach or compel a distribution of property that is subject:
- 743 (1) To a power of withdrawal held by the beneficiary if the value of
- 744 the property subject to the power does not exceed the greater of the
- 745 amount specified in Section 2041(b)(2) or 2514(e) of the Internal
- 746 Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal
- 747 revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time, and
- 748 the regulations adopted thereunder, or Section 2503(b) of said Internal
- Revenue Code and the regulations adopted thereunder, in each case as
- 750 in effect on October 1, 2018;
- 751 (2) Except as provided in subsection (b) of section 42 of this act, to a
- power, whether mandatory or discretionary, held by the trustee of the
- 753 trust, including a power held by the beneficiary as the sole trustee or a
- 754 cotrustee of the trust, to make distributions to or for the benefit of the

755 beneficiary, if the power is exercisable by the trustee only in 756 accordance with an ascertainable standard relating to such 757 beneficiary's individual health, education, support or maintenance 758 within the meaning of Section 2041(b)(1)(A) or 2514(c)(1) of the 759 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding 760 internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to 761 time, and the regulations adopted thereunder, as in effect on October 762 1, 2018; or

- (3) To a power, whether mandatory or discretionary, held by the trustee of the trust, including a power held by the beneficiary as the sole trustee or a cotrustee of the trust, to make distributions to or for the benefit of a person who the beneficiary has an obligation to support, if the power is exercisable by the trustee only in accordance with an ascertainable standard relating to such person's individual health, education, support or maintenance within the meaning of Section 2041(b)(1)(A) or 2514(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time, and the regulations adopted thereunder, as in effect on October 1, 2018.
- (b) A beneficiary holding a power set forth in subsection (a) of this section shall not, during the period the power may be exercised or upon the lapse, release or waiver of the power, be treated as a settlor of the trust.
- (c) This section and sections 39 to 45, inclusive, of this act shall not apply to statutory trusts created pursuant to chapter 615 of the general statutes to the extent inconsistent with the terms of said chapter.
- Sec. 47. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) The capacity required to create, amend, revoke or add property to a revocable trust, or to direct the actions of the trustee of a revocable trust, is the same as that required to make a will.
- Sec. 48. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) Unless the terms of a trust expressly provide that the trust is irrevocable, the settlor may

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revoke or amend the trust. This subsection shall not apply to (1) a trust created under an instrument executed before October 1, 2018, (2) charitable pledges, or (3) other charitable gifts in which the charitable interest has otherwise vested.

- (b) If a revocable trust is created or funded by more than one settlor: (1) To the extent the trust consists of community property, the trust may be revoked by either spouse acting alone but may be amended only by joint action of both spouses; and (2) to the extent the trust consists of property other than community property, each settlor may revoke or amend the trust with regard to the portion of the trust property attributable to such settlor's contribution.
- (c) (1) The settlor may revoke or amend a revocable trust by substantial compliance with a method provided in the terms of the trust.
- (2) If the terms of the trust do not provide a method, or the method provided in the terms is not expressly made exclusive, the settlor may revoke or amend a revocable trust by (A) executing a later will or codicil that has been admitted to probate and that expressly refers to the trust or expressly devises specifically identified items of real or personal property that would otherwise have passed according to the terms of the trust, or (B) any other method manifesting clear and convincing evidence of the settlor's intent, provided (i) a written revocable trust may only be amended by a later written instrument, and (ii) a written revocable trust may only be revoked by a later written instrument or by the burning, cancellation, tearing or obliteration of the revocable trust by the settlor or by some person in the settlor's presence and at the settlor's direction.
- (d) Upon revocation of a revocable trust, the trustee shall deliver the trust property as the settlor directs.
- (e) A settlor's powers with respect to revocation, amendment or distribution of trust property may be exercised by an agent under a power of attorney only to the extent expressly authorized by the terms

of the trust and the power of attorney.

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- (f) Unless expressly prohibited by the terms of the trust, a conservator of the settlor may exercise a settlor's powers with respect to revocation, amendment or distribution of trust property with the approval of the trustee and the court supervising the conservatorship.
- (g) A trustee who does not know that a trust has been revoked or amended is not liable to the settlor or settlor's successors in interest for distributions made and other actions taken on the assumption that the trust had not been amended or revoked.
 - (h) A trust created pursuant to 42 USC 1396p(d)(4), as amended from time to time, is irrevocable if the terms of the trust prohibit the settlor from revoking it, even if the settlor's estate or the settlor's heirs at law are named as the remainder beneficiary of the trust upon the settlor's death.
 - Sec. 49. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) To the extent a trust is revocable by a settlor, a trustee may follow a direction of the settlor that is contrary to the terms of the trust. To the extent a trust is revocable by a settlor in conjunction with a person other than a trustee or person holding an adverse interest, the trustee may follow a direction from the settlor and the other person holding the power to revoke even if the direction is contrary to the terms of the trust.
 - (b) To the extent a trust is revocable and the settlor has capacity to revoke the trust, rights of the beneficiaries are subject to the control of, and the duties of the trustee are owed exclusively to, the settlor.
 - (c) During the period the power may be exercised, the holder of a power of withdrawal has the rights of a settlor of a revocable trust under this section to the extent of the property subject to the power.
- Sec. 50. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) A person may commence a judicial proceeding to contest the validity of a trust that was revocable at the settlor's death within the earlier of:

(1) One year after the settlor's death; or

- (2) Sixty days after the date on which the trustee sent the person a copy of the trust instrument and a notice informing the person of the trust's existence, of the trustee's name and address, and of the time allowed for commencing a proceeding. The trustee shall have the right to provide the documentation and information set forth in this subdivision to (A) all persons who would be entitled to notice of the application for probate of a will or administration of an intestate estate or to notice of the admission of a will to probate or the granting of letters of administration, and (B) the beneficiaries of the trust and all persons whose interests are, in the opinion of the trustee, adversely affected by the trust.
- (b) Upon the death of the settlor of a trust that was revocable at the settlor's death, the trustee may proceed to distribute the trust property in accordance with the terms of the trust. The trustee is not subject to liability for doing so unless: (1) The trustee knows of a pending judicial proceeding contesting the validity of the trust; (2) a potential contestant has notified the trustee of a possible judicial proceeding to contest the trust and a judicial proceeding is commenced within sixty days after the date on which the contestant sent the notification; or (3) the trustee failed to give notice in accordance with section 70 of this act.
- (c) A beneficiary of a trust that is determined to have been invalid is liable to return any distribution received.
- Sec. 51. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, a person designated as trustee accepts the trusteeship: (1) By substantially complying with a method of acceptance provided in the terms of the trust; (2) if the terms of the trust do not provide a method or the method provided in the terms is not expressly made exclusive, by accepting delivery of the trust property, exercising powers or performing duties as trustee, or otherwise indicating acceptance of the trusteeship; or (3) in the case of a testamentary trust, filing an acceptance of trust in the court with

882 jurisdiction over the trust.

- (b) A person designated as trustee who has not yet accepted the trusteeship may reject the trusteeship. A designated trustee who does not accept the trusteeship within a reasonable time after knowing of the designation is deemed to have rejected the trusteeship.
 - (c) A person designated as trustee, without accepting the trusteeship, may: (1) Act to preserve the trust property if, within a reasonable time after acting, the person sends a rejection of the trusteeship to the settlor or, if the settlor is dead or lacks capacity, to a qualified beneficiary; and (2) inspect or investigate trust property to determine potential liability under state or federal environmental or other law or for any other purpose.
 - Sec. 52. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) A trustee shall give bond to secure performance of the trustee's duties only if the court finds that a bond is needed to protect the interests of the beneficiaries or is required by the terms of the trust and, in the case of noncharitable trusts, the court has not dispensed with the requirement.
- (b) The court may specify the amount of a bond, its liabilities and whether sureties are necessary. Except in the case of a charitable trust, the court may modify or terminate a bond at any time.
- 902 (c) A testamentary trustee that is a foreign corporation shall also comply with section 45a-206 of the general statutes.
- 904 Sec. 53. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) Cotrustees who are unable to reach a unanimous decision may act by majority decision.
- 906 (b) If a vacancy occurs in a cotrusteeship, the remaining cotrustees 907 may act for the trust.
 - (c) Subject to the provisions of section 98 of this act, a cotrustee shall participate in the performance of a trustee's function unless the cotrustee is unavailable to perform the function because of absence, illness, disqualification under other law or other temporary incapacity

or the cotrustee has properly delegated the performance of the function to another trustee.

- (d) If a cotrustee is unavailable to perform duties because of absence, illness, disqualification under other law or other temporary incapacity, and prompt action is necessary to achieve the purposes of the trust or to avoid injury to the trust property, the remaining cotrustee or a majority of the remaining cotrustees may act for the trust.
- (e) A trustee may delegate to a cotrustee the performance of any function other than a function that the terms of the trust expressly require to be performed by the trustees jointly. Unless a delegation was irrevocable, a delegating trustee may revoke a delegation previously made.
- (f) Except as provided in subsection (g) of this section, a trustee who does not join in an action of another trustee is not liable for the action.
- (g) Subject to the provisions of section 98 of this act, each trustee shall exercise reasonable care to: (1) Prevent a cotrustee from committing a serious breach of trust; and (2) compel a cotrustee to redress a serious breach of trust.
 - (h) A dissenting trustee who joins in an action at the direction of the majority of the trustees and who notified any cotrustee of the dissent at or before the time of the action is not liable for the action unless the action is a serious breach of trust.
- Sec. 54. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) A vacancy in a trusteeship occurs if: (1) A person designated as trustee rejects the trusteeship; (2) a person designated as trustee cannot be identified or does not exist; (3) a trustee resigns; (4) a trustee is disqualified or removed; (5) a trustee dies; or (6) a conservator is appointed for an individual serving as trustee.
- 941 (b) If one or more cotrustees remain in office, a vacancy in a 942 trusteeship of a noncharitable trust need not be filled, unless otherwise

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required by the terms of the trust. A vacancy in a trusteeship shall be filled if the trust has no remaining trustee. A vacancy in a trusteeship of a charitable trust shall be filled, unless otherwise excused by the terms of the trust.

- (c) A vacancy in a trusteeship required to be filled shall be filled in the following order of priority: (1) By a person designated in the terms of the trust to act as successor trustee or appointed according to a procedure specified in such terms; (2) in the case of a noncharitable trust, by a person appointed by unanimous agreement of the qualified beneficiaries; or (3) by a person appointed by the court.
- (d) Whether or not a vacancy in a trusteeship exists or is required to be filled, the court may appoint an additional trustee or special fiduciary whenever the court considers the appointment necessary for the administration of the trust.
- 957 Sec. 55. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) A trustee of an inter 958 vivos trust may resign without court approval upon at least thirty 959 days' notice to either: (1) The qualified beneficiaries, the settlor, if 960 living, and all cotrustees; or (2) the court.
 - (b) A trustee of a testamentary trust may resign: (1) Without court approval upon at least thirty days' notice to the qualified beneficiaries and the court; or (2) with the approval of the court.
- (c) In approving a resignation pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of this section, the court may issue orders and impose conditions reasonably necessary for the protection of the trust property, the beneficiaries and the other trustees, and may issue such other orders as law and equity may require.
- (d) Any liability of a resigning trustee or of any sureties on such trustee's bond for acts or omissions of such trustee is not discharged or affected by such trustee's resignation.
- 972 Sec. 56. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) The settlor of a noncharitable trust, the settlor of a charitable trust who has expressed

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the right to do so, the Attorney General in the case of a charitable trust, a cotrustee or a beneficiary, may request the court to remove a trustee, or a trustee may be removed by the court on its own initiative.

977 (b) The court may remove a trustee if:

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- 978 (1) The trustee has committed a serious breach of trust;
- 979 (2) Lack of cooperation among cotrustees substantially impairs the 980 administration of the trust;
 - (3) Because of unfitness, unwillingness or persistent failure of the trustee to administer the trust effectively, the court determines that removal of the trustee best serves the interests of the beneficiaries; or
 - (4) There has been a substantial change of circumstances or removal is requested by all of the qualified beneficiaries, the court finds that removal of the trustee best serves the interests of all of the beneficiaries and is not inconsistent with a material purpose of the trust, and a suitable cotrustee or successor trustee is available. A successor corporate fiduciary shall not be removed in such a manner as to discriminate against state banks or national banking associations. No consolidated state bank or national banking association and no receiving state bank or national banking association may be removed solely because it is a successor fiduciary, as defined in section 45a-245a of the general statutes.
- Sec. 57. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) Unless a cotrustee remains in office or the court otherwise orders, and until the trust property is delivered to a successor trustee or other person entitled to it, a trustee who has resigned or been removed has the duties of a trustee and the powers necessary to protect the trust property.
- 1000 (b) A trustee who has resigned or been removed shall proceed 1001 expeditiously to deliver the trust property within the trustee's 1002 possession to the cotrustee, successor trustee or other person entitled 1003 to it.

Sec. 58. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) If the terms of a trust do not specify the trustee's compensation, a trustee is entitled to compensation that is reasonable under the circumstances.

- (b) If the terms of a trust specify the trustee's compensation, the trustee is entitled to be compensated as specified, but the court may allow more or less compensation if: (1) The duties of the trustee are substantially different from those contemplated when the trust was created; or (2) the compensation specified by the terms of the trust is unreasonably low or high.
- Sec. 59. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) A trustee is entitled to be reimbursed out of the trust property, with interest as appropriate, for: (1) Expenses that were properly incurred in the defense or administration of the trust, unless the trustee is determined to have committed a breach of trust; and (2) to the extent necessary to prevent unjust enrichment of the trust, expenses that were not properly incurred in the administration of the trust.
- 1020 (b) An advance by the trustee of money for the protection of the trust gives rise to a lien against trust property to secure reimbursement with reasonable interest.
- Sec. 60. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) Upon acceptance of a trusteeship, the trustee shall administer the trust in good faith, in accordance with its terms and purposes, settlor's intent and the interests of the beneficiaries, and in accordance with sections 1 to 113, inclusive, of this act.
- Sec. 61. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) A trustee shall administer the trust assets solely in the interests of the beneficiaries consistent with the settlor's intent.
 - (b) Subject to the rights of persons dealing with or assisting the trustee as provided in section 84 of this act, a sale, encumbrance or other transaction involving the investment or management of trust property entered into by the trustee for the trustee's own personal

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account or which is otherwise affected by a conflict between the trustee's fiduciary and personal interests is voidable by a beneficiary affected by the transaction unless: (1) The transaction was authorized by the terms of the trust; (2) the transaction was approved by the court; (3) the beneficiary did not commence a judicial proceeding within the time allowed by section 77 of this act; (4) the beneficiary consented to the trustee's conduct, ratified the transaction or released the trustee as provided in section 81 of this act; or (5) the transaction involves a contract entered into or claim acquired by the trustee before the person became or contemplated becoming trustee.

- (c) A sale, encumbrance or other transaction involving the investment or management of trust property is presumed to be affected by a conflict between personal and fiduciary interests if it is entered into by the trustee with: (1) The trustee's spouse; (2) the trustee's descendants, sibling, parents or their spouses; (3) an agent or attorney of the trustee; or (4) a corporation or other person or enterprise in which the trustee, or a person that owns a significant interest in the trustee, has an interest that might affect the trustee's best judgment.
- (d) A transaction between a trustee and a beneficiary that does not concern trust property but that occurs during the existence of the trust or while the trustee retains significant influence over the beneficiary and from which the trustee obtains an advantage is voidable by the beneficiary unless the trustee establishes that the transaction was fair to the beneficiary.
- (e) A transaction not concerning trust property in which the trustee engages in the trustee's individual capacity involves a conflict between personal and fiduciary interests if the transaction concerns an opportunity properly belonging to the trust.
- (f) The following transactions are not presumed to be affected by a conflict of interest between a trustee's personal and fiduciary interests, provided the transaction and any investment made pursuant to the transaction complies with the Connecticut Uniform Prudent Investor

Act, sections 45a-541 to 45a-541*l*, inclusive, of the general statutes, is in the best interests of the beneficiaries and is not prohibited by the governing instrument: (1) An investment by a trustee in securities of an investment company or investment trust to which the trustee, or its affiliate, provides services in a capacity other than as trustee; (2) an investment by a trustee in an insurance contract purchased from an insurance agency owned by, or affiliated with, the trustee or its affiliate; and (3) the placing of securities transactions by a trustee through a securities broker that is a part of the same company as the trustee, that is owned by the trustee or that is affiliated with the trustee.

- (g) In voting shares of stock or in exercising powers of control over similar interests in other forms of enterprise, the trustee shall act in the best interests of the beneficiaries consistent with the intentions of the settlor. If the trust is the sole owner of a corporation or other form of enterprise, the trustee shall elect or appoint directors or other managers who will manage the corporation or enterprise in the best interests of the beneficiaries.
- (h) This section shall not preclude the following transactions, if fair to the beneficiaries: (1) An agreement between a trustee and a beneficiary relating to the appointment or compensation of the trustee; (2) payment of reasonable compensation to the trustee; (3) a transaction between a trust and another trust, decedent's estate or conservatorship of which the trustee is a fiduciary or in which a beneficiary has an interest; (4) a deposit of trust money in a regulated financial service institution operated by the trustee; or (5) an advance by the trustee of money for the protection of the trust.
 - (i) The court may appoint a special fiduciary to make a decision with respect to any proposed transaction that may violate this section if entered into by the trustee.
- Sec. 62. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) If a trust has two or more beneficiaries, the trustee shall act impartially in investing, managing and distributing the trust property, giving due regard to the

- 1101 beneficiaries' respective interests.
- 1102 Sec. 63. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) A trustee shall administer
- the trust as a prudent person would, by considering the purposes,
- 1104 terms, distributional requirements and other circumstances of the
- trust. In satisfying this standard, the trustee shall exercise reasonable
- 1106 care, skill and caution.
- 1107 Sec. 64. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) A trustee may delegate
- duties and powers that a prudent trustee of comparable skills could
- 1109 properly delegate under the circumstances. The trustee shall exercise
- 1110 reasonable care, skill and caution in:
- 1111 (1) Selecting an agent;
- 1112 (2) Establishing the scope and terms of the delegation, consistent
- 1113 with the purposes and terms of the trust; and
- 1114 (3) Periodically reviewing the agent's actions in order to monitor the
- agent's performance and compliance with the terms of the delegation.
- (b) In performing a delegated function, an agent owes a duty to the
- trust to exercise reasonable care to comply with the terms of the
- 1118 delegation.
- (c) A trustee who complies with subsection (a) of this section is not
- liable to the beneficiaries or to the trust for an action of the agent to
- whom the function was delegated.
- (d) By accepting a delegation of powers or duties from the trustee of
- a trust that is subject to the law of this state, an agent submits to the
- jurisdiction of the courts of this state.
- 1125 Sec. 65. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) In a judicial proceeding
- involving the administration of a trust, the court, as justice and equity
- 1127 may require, may award costs and expenses, including reasonable
- attorney's fees, to any party, to be paid by another party or from the
- trust that is the subject of the controversy.

Sec. 66. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) A trustee shall take reasonable steps to take control of and protect the trust property.

- Sec. 67. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) A trustee shall keep
- adequate records of the administration of the trust.
- (b) A trustee shall keep trust property separate from the trustee's
- own property.
- 1136 (c) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, a trustee
- shall cause the trust property to be designated so that the interest of
- the trust, to the extent feasible, appears in records maintained by a
- 1139 party other than a trustee or beneficiary.
- (d) If the trustee maintains records clearly indicating the respective
- interests, a trustee may invest as a whole the property of two or more
- separate trusts.
- 1143 Sec. 68. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) A trustee shall take
- 1144 reasonable steps to enforce claims of the trust and to defend claims
- against the trust.
- 1146 Sec. 69. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) A trustee shall take
- reasonable steps to compel a former trustee or other person to deliver
- trust property to the trustee and to redress a breach of trust known to
- the trustee to have been committed by a former trustee.
- Sec. 70. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) Unless, under the
- 1151 circumstances, disclosure is unreasonable: (1) A trustee shall keep the
- 1152 qualified beneficiaries of the trust reasonably informed about the
- administration of the trust and of the material facts necessary for them
- to protect their interests; and (2) a trustee shall promptly respond to a
- 1155 qualified beneficiary's request for trustee's reports and other
- information reasonably related to the administration of the trust.
- (b) A trustee: (1) Upon request of a qualified beneficiary, shall
- 1158 promptly furnish to the qualified beneficiary a copy of the trust
- instrument; (2) within sixty days after accepting a trusteeship, shall

notify the qualified beneficiaries of the acceptance and of the trustee's name, address and telephone number; and (3) within sixty days after the date on which the trustee acquires knowledge of the creation of an irrevocable trust, or the date on which the trustee acquires knowledge that a formerly revocable trust has become irrevocable, whether by the death of the settlor or otherwise, shall notify the current beneficiaries of the trust's existence, of the identity of the settlor or settlors, of the right to request a copy of the trust instrument and of the right to trustee's reports.

- (c) A trustee shall send a report to the distributees and permissible distributees of trust income or principal, and to other qualified beneficiaries who request it, at least annually and at the termination of the trust. Upon a vacancy in a trusteeship, unless a cotrustee remains in office, the former trustee shall send a report to the distributees and permissible distributees, and to other qualified beneficiaries who request it. An executor, administrator or conservator may send the report on behalf of a deceased or incapacitated trustee. The report may be formal or informal, but shall include information relating to the trust property, liabilities, receipts and disbursements, including the amount of the trustee's compensation, a listing of the trust assets and, if feasible, their respective market values.
- (d) Any beneficiary may waive the right to trustee's reports or other information otherwise required to be furnished under this section. A beneficiary, with respect to future reports and other information, may withdraw a waiver previously given.
- (e) Judicial approval of a trustee's report forecloses claims as to those given notice of the proceeding as to matters disclosed in the report.
- Sec. 71. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) Notwithstanding the breadth of discretion granted to a trustee in the terms of the trust, including the use of such terms as "absolute", "sole" or "uncontrolled", the trustee shall exercise a discretionary power in good faith and in accordance with the terms and purposes of the trust, settlor's intent

and the interests of the beneficiaries.

(b) Subject to the provisions of subsection (d) of this section, and unless the terms of the trust expressly indicate that a rule in this subsection does not apply: (1) A person, other than a settlor, who is a beneficiary and trustee of a trust that confers on the trustee a power to make discretionary distributions to or for the trustee's personal benefit, may exercise the power only in accordance with an ascertainable standard relating to the trustee's individual health, education, support or maintenance within the meaning of Section 2041(b)(1)(A) or 2514(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time; and (2) a trustee may not exercise a power to make discretionary distributions to satisfy a legal obligation of support that the trustee personally owes another person.

- (c) A power to make discretionary distributions, the exercise of which is limited or prohibited by subsection (b) of this section, may be exercised by a majority of the remaining trustees whose exercise of such power is not so limited or prohibited. If the exercise of such power by all trustees is so limited or prohibited, the court may appoint a special fiduciary with authority to exercise such power.
- (d) Subsection (b) of this section does not apply to: (1) A power held by the settlor's spouse who is the trustee of a trust for which a marital deduction, as defined in Section 2056(b)(5) or 2523(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United States, as amended from time to time, was previously allowed; (2) any trust during any period that the trust may be revoked or amended by its settlor; or (3) a trust, if contributions to the trust qualify for the annual exclusion under Section 2503(c) of said Internal Revenue Code.
- Sec. 72. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) A trustee, without authorization by the court, may exercise: (1) Powers conferred by the terms of the trust; and (2) except as limited by the terms of the trust, (A) all powers over the trust property which an unmarried competent

owner has over individually owned property, (B) any other powers

- 1227 appropriate to achieve the proper investment, management and
- distribution of the trust property, and (C) any other powers conferred
- by sections 1 to 113, inclusive, of this act.
- 1230 (b) The exercise of any power is subject to the fiduciary duties
- prescribed by sections 60 to 74, inclusive, of this act.
- Sec. 73. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) Without limiting the
- authority conferred by section 72 of this act, a trustee may:
- 1234 (1) Collect trust property and accept or reject additions to the trust
- 1235 property from a settlor or any other person;
- 1236 (2) Acquire or sell property, for cash or on credit, at public or
- 1237 private sale;
- 1238 (3) Exchange, partition or otherwise change the character of trust
- 1239 property;
- 1240 (4) Deposit trust money in an account in a regulated financial
- 1241 service institution;
- 1242 (5) Borrow money, with or without security, and mortgage or
- 1243 pledge trust property for a period within or extending beyond the
- 1244 duration of the trust;
- 1245 (6) With respect to an interest in a proprietorship, partnership,
- limited liability company, business trust, corporation or other form of
- business or enterprise, continue the business or other enterprise and
- 1248 take any action that may be taken by shareholders, members or
- 1249 property owners, including merging, dissolving or otherwise changing
- the form of business organization or contributing additional capital;
- 1251 (7) With respect to stocks or other securities, exercise the rights of an
- absolute owner, including the right to (A) vote or give proxies to vote,
- 1253 with or without power of substitution, or enter into or continue a
- voting trust agreement, (B) hold a security in the name of a nominee or

in other form without disclosure of the trust so that title may pass by delivery, (C) pay calls, assessments and other sums chargeable or accruing against the securities, and sell or exercise stock subscription or conversion rights, and (D) deposit the securities with a depositary or other regulated financial service institution;

- (8) With respect to an interest in real property, construct or make ordinary or extraordinary repairs to, alterations to or improvements in buildings or other structures, demolish improvements, raze existing or erect new party walls or buildings, subdivide or develop land, dedicate land to public use or grant public or private easements, and make or vacate plats and adjust boundaries;
- (9) Enter into a lease for any purpose as lessor or lessee, including a lease or other arrangement for exploration and removal of natural resources, with or without the option to purchase or renew, for a period within or extending beyond the duration of the trust;
- (10) Grant an option involving a sale, lease or other disposition of trust property or acquire an option for the acquisition of property, including an option exercisable beyond the duration of the trust, and exercise an option so acquired;
- 1274 (11) Insure the property of the trust against damage or loss and 1275 insure the trustee, the trustee's agents and beneficiaries against liability 1276 arising from the administration of the trust;
- 1277 (12) Abandon or decline to administer property of no value or of 1278 insufficient value to justify its collection or continued administration;
 - (13) With respect to possible liability for violation of environmental law, (A) inspect or investigate property the trustee holds or has been asked to hold, or property owned or operated by an organization in which the trustee holds or has been asked to hold an interest, for the purpose of determining the application of environmental law with respect to the property, (B) take action to prevent, abate or otherwise remedy any actual or potential violation of any environmental law

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affecting property held directly or indirectly by the trustee, whether taken before or after the assertion of a claim or the initiation of governmental enforcement, (C) decline to accept property into trust or disclaim any power with respect to property that is or may be burdened with liability for violation of environmental law, (D) compromise claims against the trust which may be asserted for an alleged violation of environmental law, and (E) pay the expense of any inspection, review, abatement or remedial action to comply with environmental law;

- 1295 (14) Pay or contest any claim, settle a claim by or against the trust, 1296 and release, in whole or in part, a claim belonging to the trust;
- 1297 (15) Pay taxes, assessments, compensation of the trustee and of 1298 employees and agents of the trust, and other expenses incurred in the 1299 administration of the trust;
 - (16) Exercise elections with respect to federal, state and local taxes;
- 1301 (17) Select a mode of payment under any employee benefit or 1302 retirement plan, annuity or life insurance payable to the trustee, 1303 exercise rights thereunder, including exercise of the right to 1304 indemnification for expenses and against liabilities, and take 1305 appropriate action to collect the proceeds;
- 1306 (18) Make loans out of trust property, including loans to a 1307 beneficiary on terms and conditions the trustee considers to be fair and 1308 reasonable under the circumstances, with the trustee having a lien on 1309 future distributions for repayment of such loans;
- 1310 (19) Pledge trust property to guarantee loans made by others to the 1311 beneficiary;
 - (20) Appoint a trustee to act in another jurisdiction with respect to trust property located in the other jurisdiction, confer upon such appointed trustee all of the powers and duties of the appointing trustee, require that such appointed trustee furnish security, and remove any trustee so appointed;

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(21) Pay an amount distributable to a beneficiary who is under a legal disability or who the trustee reasonably believes is incapacitated, by: (A) Paying it directly to the beneficiary or applying it for the beneficiary's benefit; (B) paying it to the beneficiary's conservator or, if the beneficiary does not have a conservator, the beneficiary's guardian; (C) paying it to the beneficiary's custodian under the Connecticut Uniform Transfers to Minors Act or to the beneficiary's custodial trustee under the Uniform Custodial Trust Act, and, for such purpose, creating a custodianship or custodial trust; (D) if the trustee does not know of a conservator, custodian or custodial trustee, paying it to an adult relative or other person having legal or physical care or custody of the beneficiary, to be expended on the beneficiary's behalf; or (E) managing it as a separate fund on the beneficiary's behalf, subject to the beneficiary's continuing right to withdraw the distribution;

- (22) On distribution of trust property or the division or termination of a trust, make distributions in divided or undivided interests, allocate particular assets in proportionate or disproportionate shares, value the trust property for such purposes and adjust for resulting differences in valuation;
- 1336 (23) Resolve a dispute concerning the interpretation of the trust or 1337 its administration by mediation, arbitration or other procedure for 1338 alternative dispute resolution;
- 1339 (24) Prosecute or defend an action, claim or judicial proceeding in 1340 any jurisdiction to protect trust property and the trustee in the 1341 performance of the trustee's duties;
- 1342 (25) Sign and deliver contracts and other instruments that are useful to achieve or facilitate the exercise of the trustee's powers; and
- 1344 (26) On termination of the trust, exercise the powers appropriate to 1345 wind up the administration of the trust and distribute the trust 1346 property to the persons entitled to it.
- 1347 (b) The foregoing powers shall not apply to a charitable trust to the

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extent that their exercise would give the trustee the authority to deviate from a stated charitable purpose or violate a restricted gift.

- 1350 Sec. 74. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) Upon termination or 1351 partial termination of a trust, the trustee of an inter vivos trust may 1352 send to the qualified beneficiaries a proposal for distribution. The right 1353 of any beneficiary, to whom the trustee has sent the proposal, to object 1354 to the proposed distribution terminates if the beneficiary does not 1355 notify the trustee of an objection not later than thirty days after the 1356 date on which the proposal was sent, but only if the proposal informed 1357 the beneficiary of the right to object and of the time allowed for 1358 objection.
- (b) Upon the occurrence of an event terminating or partially terminating a trust, the trustee shall proceed expeditiously to distribute the trust property to the persons entitled to it, subject to the right of the trustee to retain a reasonable reserve for the payment of debts, expenses and taxes.
 - (c) A release by a beneficiary of a trustee from liability for breach of trust is invalid to the extent: (1) It was induced by improper conduct of the trustee; or (2) the beneficiary, at the time of the release, did not know of the beneficiary's rights or of the material facts relating to the breach.
- Sec. 75. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) A violation by a trustee of a duty the trustee owes to a beneficiary is a breach of trust.
- Sec. 76. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) A trustee is accountable to an affected beneficiary for any profit made by the trustee arising from the administration of the trust, even absent a breach of trust.
- 1374 (b) Absent a breach of trust, a trustee is not liable to a beneficiary for 1375 a loss or depreciation in the value of trust property or for not having 1376 made a profit.
- Sec. 77. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) A beneficiary may not commence a proceeding against a trustee for breach of trust more than

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one year after the date on which the beneficiary or a representative of the beneficiary was sent a report that adequately disclosed the existence of a potential claim for breach of trust and informed the

- beneficiary of the time allowed for commencing a proceeding.
- 1383 (b) A report adequately discloses the existence of a potential claim 1384 for breach of trust if it provides sufficient information so that the 1385 beneficiary or representative knows of the potential claim or should 1386 have inquired into its existence.
- (c) If subsection (a) of this section does not apply, a judicial proceeding by a beneficiary against a trustee for breach of trust shall be commenced not later than two years after the first to occur of: (1) The removal, resignation or death of the trustee; (2) the termination of the beneficiary's interest in the trust; or (3) the termination of the trust.
- (d) In a proceeding involving a charitable trust, any notice that is required to be given to the Attorney General shall include a copy of the trust instrument.
- Sec. 78. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) A trustee who acts in reasonable reliance on the terms of the trust as expressed in the trust instrument is not liable to a beneficiary for a breach of trust to the extent the breach resulted from the reliance.
- Sec. 79. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) If the happening of an event, including marriage, divorce, performance of educational requirements or death, affects the administration or distribution of a trust, a trustee who has exercised reasonable care to ascertain the happening of the event is not liable for a loss resulting from the trustee's lack of knowledge.
- Sec. 80. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) A term of a trust relieving a trustee of liability for breach of trust is unenforceable to the extent that it: (1) Relieves the trustee of liability for breach of trust committed in bad faith or with reckless indifference to the purposes of the trust or the interests of the beneficiaries; or (2) was inserted as the

result of an abuse by the trustee of a fiduciary or confidential relationship to the settlor.

- (b) Except for terms intended to provide protection for carrying out a stated trust purpose, an exculpatory term drafted or caused to be drafted by the trustee is invalid as an abuse of a fiduciary or confidential relationship unless the trustee proves that the exculpatory term is fair under the circumstances and that its existence and contents were adequately communicated to the settlor.
- 1418 Sec. 81. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) A trustee is not liable to a 1419 beneficiary for breach of trust if the beneficiary consented to the 1420 conduct constituting the breach, released the trustee from liability for 1421 the breach or ratified the transaction constituting the breach, unless: (1) 1422 The consent, release or ratification of the beneficiary was induced by 1423 improper conduct of the trustee; or (2) at the time of the consent, release or ratification, the beneficiary did not know of the beneficiary's 1424 1425 rights or of the material facts relating to the breach.
 - Sec. 82. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) Except as otherwise provided in the contract, a trustee is not personally liable on a contract properly entered into in the trustee's fiduciary capacity in the course of administering the trust if the trustee in the contract disclosed the fiduciary capacity.
 - (b) Except as otherwise limited by the general statutes, a trustee is personally liable for torts committed in the course of administering a trust or for obligations arising from ownership or control of trust property, including liability for violation of environmental law, only if the trustee is personally at fault.
 - (c) A claim based on (1) a contract entered into by a trustee in the trustee's fiduciary capacity, (2) an obligation arising from ownership or control of trust property, or (3) a tort committed in the course of administering a trust, may be asserted in a judicial proceeding against the trustee in the trustee's fiduciary capacity, whether or not the trustee is personally liable for the claim.

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Sec. 83. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section or unless personal liability is imposed in the contract, a trustee who holds an interest as a general partner in a general or limited partnership is not personally liable on a contract entered into by the partnership after the trust's acquisition of the interest if the fiduciary capacity was disclosed in the contract or in a statement previously filed pursuant to the Uniform Partnership Act, sections 34-300 to 34-399, inclusive, of the general statutes, or the Uniform Limited Partnership Act, sections 34-9 to 34-38u, inclusive, of the general statutes.

- (b) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c) of this section, a trustee who holds an interest as a general partner is not personally liable for torts committed by the partnership or for obligations arising from ownership or control of the interest unless the trustee is personally at fault.
- (c) The immunity provided by this section does not apply if an interest in the partnership is held by the trustee in a capacity other than that of trustee or is held by the trustee's spouse or one or more of the trustee's descendants, siblings or parents or the spouse of any of them.
- (d) If the trustee of a revocable trust holds an interest as a general partner, the settlor is personally liable for contracts and other obligations of the partnership as if the settlor were a general partner.
- Sec. 84. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) A person other than a beneficiary who in good faith assists a trustee, or who in good faith and for value deals with a trustee, without knowledge that the trustee is exceeding or improperly exercising the trustee's powers, is protected from liability as if the trustee properly exercised the power.
- 1470 (b) A person other than a beneficiary who in good faith deals with a trustee is not required to inquire into the extent of the trustee's powers or the propriety of their exercise.

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1473 (c) A person who in good faith delivers assets to a trustee need not 1474 ensure the proper application of such assets.

- (d) A person other than a beneficiary who in good faith assists a former trustee, or who in good faith and for value deals with a former trustee, without knowledge that the trusteeship has terminated, is protected from liability as if the former trustee were still a trustee.
- (e) Comparable protective provisions of other laws relating to commercial transactions or transfer of securities by fiduciaries prevail over the protection provided by this section.
- Sec. 85. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) Instead of furnishing a copy of the trust instrument to a person other than a beneficiary or, in the case of a charitable trust, the Attorney General's office, the trustee may furnish to the person or said office a certification of trust containing the following information: (1) That the trust exists and the date the trust instrument was executed; (2) the identity of the settlor; (3) the identity and address of the currently acting trustee; (4) the powers of the trustee; (5) the revocability or irrevocability of the trust and the identity of any person holding a power to revoke the trust; (6) the authority of cotrustees to sign or otherwise authenticate, and whether all or less than all are required in order to exercise powers of the trustee; (7) the trust's taxpayer identification number; and (8) the manner of taking title to trust property.
- (b) A certification of trust may be signed or otherwise authenticatedby any trustee.
- 1497 (c) A certification of trust shall state that the trust has not been 1498 revoked, modified or amended in any manner that would cause the 1499 representations contained in the certification of trust to be incorrect.
- 1500 (d) A certification of trust need not contain the dispositive terms of a trust.
- 1502 (e) A recipient of a certification of trust may require the trustee to 1503 furnish copies of those excerpts from the original trust instrument and

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later amendments which designate the trustee and confer upon the trustee the power to act in the pending transaction.

- (f) A person who acts in reliance upon a certification of trust without knowledge that the representations contained therein are incorrect is not liable to any person for so acting and may assume without inquiry the existence of the facts contained in the certification. Knowledge of the terms of the trust may not be inferred solely from the fact that a copy of all or part of the trust instrument is held by the person relying upon the certification.
- (g) A person who in good faith enters into a transaction in reliance upon a certification of trust may enforce the transaction against the trust property as if the representations contained in the certification were correct.
- (h) A person making a demand for the trust instrument in addition to a certification of trust or excerpts is liable for damages if the court determines that the person did not act in good faith in demanding the trust instrument.
- (i) This section shall not limit the right of a person to obtain a copy of the trust instrument in a judicial proceeding concerning the trust, and shall not in any way limit the rights of the Attorney General to notice under subsection (d) of section 77 of this act.
- Sec. 86. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) In applying and construing the uniform provisions of sections 1 to 87, inclusive, of this act, consideration shall be given to the need to promote uniformity of the law with respect to the subject matter among states that enact such uniform provisions.
- Sec. 87. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) If any provision of this section or sections 1 to 86, inclusive, of this act or its application to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this section or sections 1 to 86, inclusive, of this act which can be given effect without the invalid

provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this section

- and sections 1 to 86, inclusive, of this act are severable.
- 1537 Sec. 88. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) This section and sections 89
- to 105, inclusive, of this act may be cited as the "Connecticut Uniform
- 1539 Directed Trust Act."
- 1540 Sec. 89. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) Sections 88 to 105,
- inclusive, of this act apply to a trust, whenever created, that has its
- principal place of administration in this state, subject to the following
- 1543 rules:
- 1544 (1) If the trust was created before October 1, 2018, sections 88 to 105,
- inclusive, of this act apply only to a decision or action occurring on or
- 1546 after October 1, 2018.
- 1547 (2) If the principal place of administration of the trust is changed to
- this state on or after October 1, 2018, sections 88 to 105, inclusive, of
- this act apply only to a decision or action occurring on or after the date
- 1550 of the change.
- 1551 Sec. 90. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) The common law and
- principles of equity supplement sections 88 to 105, inclusive, of this act,
- except to the extent modified by sections 88 to 105, inclusive, of this act
- or law of this state other than sections 88 to 105, inclusive, of this act.
- 1555 Sec. 91. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) As used in this section,
- 1556 "power of appointment" means a power that enables a person acting in
- 1557 a nonfiduciary capacity to designate a recipient of an ownership
- interest in or another power of appointment over trust property.
- (b) Sections 88 to 105, inclusive, of this act do not apply to a:
- 1560 (1) Power of appointment;
- 1561 (2) Power to appoint or remove a trustee or trust director;
- 1562 (3) Power of a settlor over a trust to the extent the settlor has a
- power to revoke the trust;

1564 (4) Power of a beneficiary over a trust to the extent the exercise or nonexercise of the power affects the beneficial interest of:

- 1566 (A) The beneficiary; or
- 1567 (B) Another beneficiary represented by the beneficiary under 1568 sections 17 to 21, inclusive, of this act with respect to the exercise or 1569 nonexercise of the power; or
- 1570 (5) Power over a trust if:
- 1571 (A) The terms of the trust provide that the power is held in a 1572 nonfiduciary capacity; and
- 1573 (B) The power is held in a nonfiduciary capacity to achieve the 1574 settlor's tax objectives under the United States Internal Revenue Code 1575 of 1986, or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the 1576 United States, as amended from time to time.
- (c) Unless the terms of a trust provide otherwise, a power granted to a person to designate a recipient of an ownership interest in or power of appointment over trust property which is exercisable while the person is not serving as a trustee is a power of appointment and not a power of direction.
- Sec. 92. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) Subject to section 93 of this act, the terms of a trust may grant a power of direction to a trust director.
- (b) Unless the terms of a trust provide otherwise: (1) A trust director may exercise any further power appropriate to the exercise or nonexercise of a power of direction granted to the director under subsection (a) of this section; and (2) trust directors with joint powers shall act by majority decision.
- Sec. 93. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) A trust director is subject to the same rules as a trustee in a like position and under similar circumstances in the exercise or nonexercise of a power of direction or

further power under subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 92 of this act regarding:

- 1595 (1) A payback provision in the terms of a trust necessary to comply 1596 with the reimbursement requirements of 42 USC 1396p(d)(4)(A), as 1597 amended from time to time; and
- 1598 (2) A charitable interest in the trust, including notice regarding the interest to the Attorney General.
- Sec. 94. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) Subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, with respect to a power of direction or further power under subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 92 of this act:
- 1604 (1) A trust director has the same fiduciary duty and liability in the 1605 exercise or nonexercise of the power:
- 1606 (A) If the power is held individually, as a sole trustee in a like 1607 position and under similar circumstances; or
- 1608 (B) If the power is held jointly with a trustee or another trust 1609 director, as a cotrustee in a like position and under similar 1610 circumstances; and
- 1611 (2) The terms of the trust may vary the director's duty or liability to 1612 the same extent the terms of the trust could vary the duty or liability of 1613 a trustee in a like position and under similar circumstances.
- (b) Unless the terms of a trust provide otherwise, if a trust director is licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized or permitted by law other than sections 88 to 105, inclusive, of this act to provide health care in the ordinary course of the director's business or practice of a profession, to the extent the director acts in that capacity, the director has no duty or liability under sections 88 to 105, inclusive, of this act.
- 1620 (c) The terms of a trust may impose a duty or liability on a trust director in addition to the duties and liabilities under this section.

Sec. 95. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) Subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, a directed trustee shall take reasonable action to comply with a trust director's exercise or nonexercise of a power of direction or further power under subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 92 of this act, and the trustee is not liable for the action.

- (b) A directed trustee must not comply with a trust director's exercise or nonexercise of a power of direction or further power under subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 92 of this act to the extent that by complying the trustee would engage in wilful misconduct.
- (c) An exercise of a power of direction under which a trust director may release a trustee or another trust director from liability for breach of trust is not effective if: (1) The breach involved the trustee's or other director's wilful misconduct; (2) the release was induced by improper conduct of the trustee or other director in procuring the release; or (3) at the time of the release, the director did not know the material facts relating to the breach.
- 1639 (d) A directed trustee that has reasonable doubt about its duty 1640 under this section may petition the court for instructions.
- 1641 (e) The terms of a trust may impose a duty or liability on a directed 1642 trustee in addition to the duties and liabilities under this section.
- 1643 Sec. 96. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) Subject to the provisions 1644 of section 97 of this act, a trustee shall provide information to a trust 1645 director to the extent the information is reasonably related to: (1) The powers or duties of the trustee; and (2) the powers or duties of the director.
 - (b) Subject to the provisions of section 97 of this act, a trust director shall provide information to a trustee or another trust director to the extent the information is reasonably related to: (1) The powers or duties of the director; and (2) the powers or duties of the trustee or other director.

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(c) A trustee that acts in reliance on information provided by a trust director is not liable for a breach of trust to the extent the breach resulted from the reliance, unless by so acting the trustee engages in wilful misconduct.

- (d) A trust director that acts in reliance on information provided by a trustee or another trust director is not liable for a breach of trust to the extent the breach resulted from the reliance, unless by so acting the trust director engages in wilful misconduct.
- Sec. 97. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) Unless the terms of a trust provide otherwise: (1) A trustee does not have a duty to: (A) Monitor a trust director; or (B) inform or give advice to a settlor, beneficiary, trustee or trust director concerning an instance in which the trustee might have acted differently than the director; and (2) by taking an action described in subdivision (1) of this subsection, a trustee does not assume the duty excluded in said subdivision.
 - (b) Unless the terms of a trust provide otherwise: (1) A trust director does not have a duty to: (A) Monitor a trustee or another trust director; or (B) inform or give advice to a settlor, beneficiary, trustee or another trust director concerning an instance in which the director might have acted differently than a trustee or another trust director; and (2) by taking an action described in subdivision (1) of this subsection, a trust director does not assume the duty excluded by said subdivision.
 - Sec. 98. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) The terms of a trust may relieve a cotrustee from duty and liability with respect to another cotrustee's exercise or nonexercise of a power of the other cotrustee to the same extent that in a directed trust a directed trustee is relieved from duty and liability with respect to a trust director's power of direction under sections 95 to 97, inclusive, of this act.
 - Sec. 99. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) An action against a trust director for breach of trust must be commenced within the same limitation period as under section 77 of this act for an action for breach of trust against a trustee in a like position and under similar

- 1685 circumstances.
- 1686 (b) A report or accounting has the same effect on the limitation
- period for an action against a trust director for breach of trust that the
- 1688 report or accounting would have under section 77 of this act in an
- action for breach of trust against a trustee in a like position and under
- 1690 similar circumstances.
- Sec. 100. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) In an action against a trust
- director for breach of trust, the director may assert the same defenses a
- trustee in a like position and under similar circumstances could assert
- in an action for breach of trust against the trustee.
- 1695 Sec. 101. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) By accepting
- appointment as a trust director of a trust subject to sections 88 to 105,
- inclusive, of this act, the director submits to personal jurisdiction of the
- 1698 courts of this state regarding any matter related to a power or duty of
- the director.
- 1700 (b) This section does not preclude other methods of obtaining
- 1701 jurisdiction over a trust director.
- 1702 Sec. 102. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) Unless the terms of a trust
- 1703 provide otherwise, the rules applicable to a trustee apply to a trust
- 1704 director regarding the following matters:
- 1705 (1) Acceptance under section 51 of this act;
- 1706 (2) Giving of bond to secure performance under section 52 of this
- 1707 act;
- 1708 (3) Reasonable compensation under section 58 of this act;
- 1709 (4) Resignation under section 55 of this act;
- 1710 (5) Removal under section 56 of this act; and
- 1711 (6) Vacancy and appointment of successor under section 54 of this
- 1712 act.

1713 Sec. 103. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) In applying and

- 1714 construing the uniform provisions of sections 88 to 105, inclusive, of
- this act, consideration shall be given to the need to promote uniformity
- of the law with respect to its subject matter among states that enact it.
- 1717 Sec. 104. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) Sections 88 to 105,
- 1718 inclusive, of this act modify, limit or supersede the Electronic
- 1719 Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, 15 USC 7001 et seq.,
- but do not modify, limit or supersede Section 101(c) of said act, 15 USC
- 1721 Section 7001(c), or authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices
- described in Section 103(b) of said act, 15 USC 7003(b).
- 1723 Sec. 105. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) The provisions of this
- section and sections 88 to 104, inclusive, of this act governing the legal
- 1725 effect, validity or enforceability of electronic records or electronic
- signatures, and of contracts formed or performed with the use of such
- 1727 records or signatures, conform to the requirements of Section 102 of
- the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, 15
- 1729 USC 7002 and supersede, modify and limit the requirements of said
- 1730 act.
- 1731 Sec. 106. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) This section and sections
- 1732 107 to 112, inclusive, of this act may be cited as the "Connecticut
- 1733 Qualified Dispositions in Trust Act".
- 1734 Sec. 107. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) As used in sections 106 to
- 1735 112, inclusive, of this act:
- 1736 (1) "Claim" means a right to payment, whether or not the right is
- 1737 reduced to judgment, liquidated, unliquidated, fixed, contingent,
- 1738 matured, unmatured, disputed, undisputed, legal equitable, secured or
- 1739 unsecured.
- 1740 (2) "Creditor" means, with respect to a transferor, a person who has
- 1741 a claim.
- 1742 (3) "Debt" means liability on a claim.

(4) "Disposition" means a transfer, conveyance or assignment of property, including a change in the legal ownership of property occurring upon the substitution of one trustee for another or the addition of one or more new trustees, or the exercise of a power so as to cause a transfer of property, to a trustee or trustees. "Disposition" does not include the release or relinquishment of an interest that was the subject of a qualified disposition.

- (5) "Property" includes real property, tangible and intangible personal property, and interests in real or personal property, tangible and intangible.
- 1753 (6) "Qualified disposition" means a disposition by or from a 1754 transferor to a trustee, with or without consideration, by means of a 1755 trust instrument. "Qualified disposition" does not include a 1756 disposition: (A) In derogation of any state or federal agency claim or 1757 right of recovery under Subchapter XIX of Chapter 7 of Title 42 of the 1758 United States Code against a trust established by a transferor or such 1759 transferor's spouse, or (B) in respect to a state or federal agency 1760 treatment of the trust instrument in a determination of a transferor's eligibility under a state plan under Subchapter XIX of Chapter 7 of 1762 Title 42 of the United States Code.
- 1763 (7) "Spouse" and "former spouse" means only persons to whom the 1764 transferor was married at, or before, the time the qualified disposition 1765 is made.
 - (8) "Transferor" means a natural person who, or entity which, as an owner of property or as a holder of a general power of appointment, which authorizes the holder to appoint in favor of the holder, the holder's creditors, the holder's estate or the creditors of the holder's estate, or as a trustee, directly or indirectly, makes a disposition or causes a disposition to be made.
- 1772 (9) "Qualified trustee" means:

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1773 (A) Any person, other than the transferor, who in the case of a

natural person, is a resident of this state or who, in all other cases, is a state or federally chartered bank or trust company having a place of business in this state, is authorized to engage in a trust business in this state, and maintains or arranges for custody in this state of some or all of the property that is the subject of the qualified disposition, maintains records in this state for the trust on an exclusive or nonexclusive basis, prepares or arranges for the preparation in this state of fiduciary income tax returns for the trust, or otherwise materially participates in this state in the administration of the trust.

- (B) "Qualified trustee" does not include either the transferor or any other natural person who is a nonresident of this state nor an entity that is not authorized by the law of this state to act as a trustee or whose activities are not subject to supervision as provided in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, provided sections 106 to 112, inclusive, of this act shall not be construed to preclude a transferor from appointing one or more advisors, including, but not limited to:
- 1790 (i) Advisors who have authority under the terms of the trust 1791 instrument to remove and appoint qualified trustees or trust advisors; 1792 and
 - (ii) Advisors who have authority under the terms of the trust instrument to direct, consent to or disapprove distributions from the trust. For purposes of this subparagraph and subparagraph (C) of this subdivision, "advisor" includes a trust "protector" or any other person who, in addition to a qualified trustee, holds one or more trust powers.
 - (C) A person may serve as an advisor, notwithstanding that such person is the transferor of the qualified disposition, but such a person may not otherwise serve as advisor of a trust that is a qualified disposition except with respect to the retention of the veto right permitted by subparagraph (B) of subdivision (10) of this section.
 - (D) In the event that a qualified trustee of a trust ceases to meet the requirements of subparagraph (A) of this subdivision and there remains no trustee that meets such requirements, such qualified

trustee shall be deemed to have resigned as of the time of such cessation, and thereupon the successor qualified trustee provided for in the trust instrument shall become a qualified trustee of the trust, or in the absence of any successor qualified trustee provided for in the trust amendment, the Superior Court or the Probate Court, if the trust is otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of the Probate Court, or with respect to an inter vivos trust, if the trust is or could be subject to the jurisdiction of the Probate Court for an accounting pursuant to section 45a-175 of the general statutes, provided such an accounting need not be required, shall have jurisdiction, upon application of any interested party, to appoint a successor qualified trustee.

- (E) In the case of a disposition to more than one trustee, a disposition that is otherwise a qualified disposition shall not be treated as other than a qualified disposition solely because not all of the trustees are qualified trustees.
- 1821 (10) "Trust instrument" means an instrument, in writing, appointing 1822 a qualified trustee or qualified trustees for the property that is the 1823 subject of a disposition, which instrument:
 - (A) Expressly provides that the laws of this state govern the validity, construction and administration of the trust, provided a disposition by a trustee who is not a qualified trustee to a trustee who is a qualified trustee will not fail to qualify as a qualified disposition solely because the trust instrument does not contain such an express provision;
- 1830 (B) Is irrevocable, provided a trust instrument shall not be deemed 1831 revocable due to inclusion in the trust instrument of one or more of the 1832 following:
- 1833 (i) A transferor's power to veto a distribution from the trust;
- 1834 (ii) A power of appointment, other than a power to appoint to the 1835 transferor, the transferor's creditors, the transferor's estate or the 1836 creditors of the transferor's estate, exercisable by will or other written

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instrument of the transferor effective only upon the transferor's death;

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- (iii) The transferor's potential or actual receipt of income, including rights to such income retained in the trust instrument;
- 1840 (iv) The transferor's potential or actual receipt of income or 1841 principal from a charitable remainder unitrust or charitable remainder 1842 annuity trust as such terms are defined in 26 USC 664, as from time to 1843 time amended; and the transferor's right, at any time and from time to 1844 time by written instrument delivered to the trustee, to release such transferor's retained interest in such a trust, in whole or in part, in 1845 1846 favor of a charitable organization that has or charitable organizations 1847 that have a succeeding beneficial interest in such trust;
 - (v) The transferor's receipt each year of a percentage, not to exceed five per cent, specified in the trust instrument of the initial value of the trust assets on their value determined from time to time pursuant to the trust instrument or of a fixed amount that, on an annual basis, does not exceed five per cent of the initial value of the trust assets;
 - (vi) The transferor's potential or actual receipt or use of principal if such potential or actual receipt or use of principal would be the result of a qualified trustee's or qualified trustees' acting:
- 1856 (I) In such qualified trustee's or qualified trustees' discretion;
- (II) Pursuant to a standard that governs the distribution of principal and does not confer upon the transferor a substantially unfettered right to the receipt or use of the principal; or
 - (III) At the direction of an advisor described in subdivision (9) of this section who is acting in such advisor's discretion, or pursuant to a standard that governs the distribution of principal and does not confer upon the transferor a substantially unfettered right to the receipt of or use of principal. For purposes of this subclause, a qualified trustee is presumed to have discretion with respect to the distribution of principal unless such discretion is expressly denied to such trustee by the terms of the trust instrument;

(vii) The transferor's right to remove a trustee or advisor and to appoint a new trustee or advisor, other than a person who is a related or subordinate party with respect to the transferor within the meaning of 26 USC 672(c), as amended from time to time;

- (viii) The transferor's potential or actual use of real property held under a qualified personal residence trust within the meaning of such term as described in 26 USC 2702(c), as amended from time to time, or the transferor's possession and enjoyment of a qualified annuity interest within the meaning of such term as described in 26 CFR 25.2502-5(c)(8), as amended from time to time; and
- (ix) The transferor's potential or actual receipt of income or principal to pay, in whole or in part, income taxes due on income of the trust if such potential or actual receipt of income or principal is pursuant to a provision in the trust instrument that expressly provides for the payment of such taxes and if such potential or actual receipt of income or principal would be the result of a qualified trustee's or qualified trustees' acting:
 - (I) In such qualified trustee's or qualified trustees' discretion; or
 - (II) At the direction of an advisor described in subdivision (9) of this section who is acting in such advisor's discretion. Distributions to pay income taxes made under discretion included in a governing instrument pursuant to this clause or clause (iii) or (vi) of this subparagraph may be made by direct payment to the taxing authorities; and
 - (C) Provides that the interest of the transferor or other beneficiary in the trust property or the income therefrom may not be transferred, assigned, pledged or mortgaged, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, before the qualified trustee or qualified trustees actually distribute the property or income therefrom to the beneficiary, and such provision of the trust instrument shall be deemed to be a restriction on the transfer of the transferor's beneficial interest in the trust that is enforceable under applicable nonbankruptcy law within the meaning of 11 USC

541(c)(2), as amended from time to time.

Sec. 108. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) A qualified disposition shall be subject to sections 106 to 112, inclusive, of this act notwithstanding a transferor's retention of any or all of the powers and rights described in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (10) of section 107 of this act and the transferor's service as investment advisor pursuant to subdivision (9) of section 107 of this act. The transferor shall have only such powers and rights as are conferred by the trust instrument. Except as permitted by subparagraph (D) of subdivision (9) of section 107 of this act and in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (10) of section 107 of this act, a transferor shall have no rights or authority with respect to the property that is the subject of a qualified disposition or the income therefrom, and any agreement or understanding purporting to grant or permit the retention of any greater rights or authority shall be void.

Sec. 109. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, no action of any kind, including, without limitation, an action to enforce a judgment entered by a court or other body having adjudicative authority, shall be brought at law or in equity for an attachment or other provisional remedy against property that is the subject of a qualified disposition or for avoidance of a qualified disposition, unless such action is brought pursuant to the provisions of section 52-552h of the general statutes. In any such action, the burden to prove each element by clear and convincing evidence shall be on the creditor.

- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 52-552j of the general statutes, a creditor may not bring an action under subsection (a) of this section if:
- (1) The creditor's claim against the transferor arose before the qualified disposition was made, unless the action is brought within four years after the qualified disposition is made or, if later, within one year after the qualified disposition was or could reasonably have been discovered by the creditor; or

(2) The creditor's claim against the transferor arose subsequent to the qualified disposition, unless the action is brought within four years after the qualified disposition is made.

- (c) For the purposes of sections 106 to 112, inclusive, of this act, a qualified disposition that is made by means of a disposition by a transferor who is a trustee shall be deemed to have been made as of the time the property that is the subject of the qualified disposition was originally transferred to the transferor, or any predecessor trustee, making the qualified disposition in a form that conforms with the requirements set forth in subdivision (10) of section 107 of this act. If a trustee of an existing trust proposes to make a qualified disposition pursuant to the provisions of this subsection, but the trust would not conform to the requirements of subdivision (10) of section 107 of this act as a result of the original transferor's nonconforming powers of appointment, then, upon the trustee's delivery to the qualified trustee of an irrevocable written election to have this subsection apply to the trust, the nonconforming powers of appointment shall be deemed modified to the extent necessary to conform with subdivision (10) of section 107 of this act. For purposes of sections 106 to 112, inclusive, of this act, the irrevocable written election shall include a description of the original transferor's powers of appointment as modified together with the original transferor's written consent thereto, but no such consent of the original transferor shall be considered a disposition within the meaning of subdivision (4) of section 107 of this act.
- (d) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, a creditor, including a creditor whose claim arose before or after a qualified disposition, or any other person shall have only such rights with respect to a qualified disposition as are provided in this section and sections 110 and 111 of this act, and no such creditor nor any other person shall have any claim or cause of action against the trustee, or an advisor, as described in subdivision (9) of section 107 of this act, of a trust that is the subject of a qualified disposition, or against any person involved in the counseling, drafting, preparation, execution or funding of a trust that is the subject of a qualified disposition.

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(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of the general statutes, no action of any kind, including, without limitation, an action to enforce a judgment by a court or other body having adjudicative authority, shall be brought at law or in equity against the trustee, or advisor described in subdivision (9) of section 107 of this act, of a trust that is the subject of the qualified disposition, or against any person involved in the counseling, drafting, preparation, execution or funding of a trust that is the subject of a qualified disposition, if, as of the date such action is brought, an action by a creditor with respect to such qualified disposition would be barred under this section.

- (f) If more than one qualified disposition is made by means of the same trust instrument, then:
- (1) The making of a subsequent qualified disposition shall be disregarded in determining whether a creditor's claim with respect to a prior qualified disposition is extinguished as provided in subsection (b) of this section; and
- (2) Any distribution to a beneficiary shall be deemed to have been made from the latest such qualified disposition.
- (g) If, in any action brought against a trustee of a trust that is funded, in whole or in part, by a qualified disposition, a court takes any action whereby such court declines to apply the law of this state in determining the validity, construction or administration of such trust, or the effect of a spendthrift provision thereof, the trustee shall immediately upon such court's action and without the further order of any court, cease in all respects to be a trustee of such trust and (1) a successor trustee shall thereupon succeed as trustee in accordance with the terms of the trust instrument, or (2) if the trust instrument does not provide for a successor trustee and the trust would otherwise be without a trustee, the Superior Court, or the Probate Court having jurisdiction, upon the application of any beneficiary of such trust, shall appoint a successor trustee upon such terms and conditions as it determines to be consistent with the purposes of such trust and the provisions of this section. Upon the trustee's ceasing to be trustee, such

trustee shall have no power or authority other than to convey the trust property to the successor trustee named in the trust instrument or appointed by the Superior Court or the Probate Court having jurisdiction in accordance with the provisions of this section.

- Sec. 110. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 109 of this act, sections 106 to 112, inclusive, of this act shall not apply to defeat a claim brought by:
- (1) Any person to whom the transferor is indebted on or before the date of a qualified disposition on account of an agreement or order of court for the payment of support or alimony in favor of the transferor's spouse, former spouse or children, or for a division or distribution of property in favor of the transferor's spouse or former spouse, but only to the extent of the debt; or
- 2013 (2) To any person who suffers death, personal injury or property 2014 damage on or before the date of a qualified disposition by a transferor, 2015 which death, personal injury or property damage is at any time 2016 determined to have been caused in whole or in part by the tortious act 2017 or omission of either the transferor or by another person for whom the 2018 transferor is or was vicariously liable but only to the extent of such 2019 claim against such transferor or other person for whom such transferor 2020 is or was vicariously liable.
 - Sec. 111. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) (a) A qualified disposition shall be avoided only to the extent necessary to satisfy the transferor's debt to the creditor at whose instance the disposition had been avoided, together with any costs, including attorney's fees, that the court may allow.
 - (b) In the event any qualified disposition is avoided pursuant to subsection (a) of this section:
- 2028 (1) If the court is satisfied that the trustee has not acted in bad faith 2029 in accepting or administering the property that is the subject of the 2030 qualified disposition:

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(A) The trustee shall have a first and paramount lien against the property that is the subject of the qualified disposition in an amount equal to the entire cost, including attorney's fees, properly incurred by the trustee in the defense of the action or proceedings to avoid the qualified disposition;

- (B) The qualified disposition shall be avoided subject to the proper fees, costs, preexisting rights, claims and interest of the trustee and of any predecessor trustee that has not acted in bad faith; and
- 2039 (C) For purposes of this subdivision, it shall be presumed that the trustee did not act in bad faith merely by accepting the property.
 - (2) If the court is satisfied that a beneficiary of a trust has not acted in bad faith, the avoidance of the qualified disposition shall be subject to the right of the beneficiary to retain any distribution made upon the exercise of a trust power or discretion vested in the trustee of the trust, which power or discretion was properly exercised prior to the creditor's commencement of an action to avoid the qualified disposition. For purposes of this subdivision, it shall be presumed that the beneficiary, including a beneficiary who is also a transferor of the trust, did not act in bad faith merely by creating the trust or by accepting a distribution made in accordance with the terms of the trust.
 - (c) A creditor shall have the burden of proving that a trustee or beneficiary acted in bad faith as set forth in subsection (b) of this section by clear and convincing evidence except, in the case of a beneficiary who is also the transferor, the burden on the creditor shall be to prove that the transferor-beneficiary acted in bad faith by a preponderance of the evidence. The provisions of this subsection shall be construed to provide substantive nonprocedural rights under state law.
 - (d) For purposes of sections 106 to 111, inclusive, of this act, attachment, garnishment, sequestration or other legal or equitable processes shall be permitted only in those circumstances permitted by

- 2063 the express terms of said sections of this act.
- Sec. 112. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2018*) The provisions of this section and sections 107 to 111, inclusive, of this act shall apply to
- 2066 qualified dispositions made on or after October 1, 2018.
- Sec. 113. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) (a) Except as otherwise
- 2068 provided in sections 1 to 112, inclusive, of this act, on October 1, 2018:
- 2069 (1) Sections 1 to 112, inclusive, of this act apply to all trusts created 2070 before, on or after October 1, 2018;
- 2071 (2) Sections 1 to 112, inclusive, of this act apply to all judicial proceedings concerning trusts commenced on or after October 1, 2018;
- 2073 (3) Sections 1 to 112, inclusive, of this act apply to judicial proceedings concerning trusts commenced before October 1, 2018, 2075 unless the court finds that application of a particular provision of said sections of this act would substantially interfere with the effective conduct of the judicial proceedings or prejudice the rights of the parties, in which case the particular provision of sections 1 to 112, inclusive, of this act shall not apply and the superseded law applies;
- 2080 (4) Any rule of construction or presumption provided in sections 1 2081 to 112, inclusive, of this act applies to trust instruments executed 2082 before October 1, 2018, unless there is a clear indication of a contrary 2083 intent in the terms of the trust;
- 2084 (5) An act done before October 1, 2018, is not affected by sections 1 2085 to 122, inclusive, of this act;
- 2086 (6) The ninety-year period specified in subdivision (1) of section 29 2087 of this act shall only apply to trusts that become irrevocable on or after 2088 October 1, 2018;
- 2089 (7) The provisions of subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 43 of 2090 this act shall only apply to revocable trusts of settlors dying on or after 2091 October 1, 2018; and

2092 (8) The provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 70 of this act and subsections (b) and (c) of section 70 of this act shall only apply to trusts that become irrevocable on or after October 1, 2018.

- (b) If a right is acquired, extinguished or barred upon the expiration of a prescribed period that has commenced to run under any provision of the general statutes, other than sections 1 to 112, inclusive, of this act before October 1, 2018, such provision of the general statutes continues to apply to the right even if such provision has been repealed or superseded.
- Sec. 114. Section 45a-490 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2018*):
- 2103 (a) Sections 45a-490 to 45a-496, inclusive, may be cited as the 2104 ["Uniform Statutory Rule Against Perpetuities"] "Maximum Duration of Trusts".
- 2106 (b) Sections 45a-491 to 45a-496, inclusive, apply to all trusts created 2107 on or after October 1, 1989, and before October 1, 2018.
- Sec. 115. Section 45a-495 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2018*):
- 2110 (a) Except as extended by subsection (b) of this section, sections 2111 [45a-490 to 45a-496, inclusive, apply to a nonvested property interest or 2112 a power of appointment that is created on or after October 1, 1989. For 2113 purposes of this section, a nonvested property interest or a power of 2114 appointment created by the exercise of a power of appointment is 2115 created when the power is irrevocably exercised or when a revocable 2116 exercise becomes irrevocable 45a-491 to 45a-495, inclusive, shall apply 2117 to a nonvested property interest or a power of appointment that is 2118 created on or after October 1, 1989, and before October 1, 2018. For 2119 purposes of this section, a nonvested property interest or a power of 2120 appointment created by the exercise of a power of appointment is 2121 created when the power is irrevocably exercised or when a revocable 2122 exercise becomes irrevocable.

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(b) If a nonvested property interest or a power of appointment was created before October 1, 1989, and is determined in a judicial proceeding, commenced on or after October 1, 1989, to violate this state's rule against perpetuities as that rule existed before October 1, 1989, a court upon the petition of an interested person may reform the disposition in the manner that most closely approximates the transferor's manifested plan of distribution and is within the limits of the rule against perpetuities applicable when the nonvested property interest or power of appointment was created.

Sec. 116. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2018) The common law rule against perpetuities shall not apply to any nonvested property interest or power of appointment created after October 1, 2018, if the trustee or other person to whom the power is properly granted or delegated, has the power under the governing instrument, applicable statute or common law, to sell, mortgage or lease property for any period of time beyond the period that is required for an interest created under the governing instrument to vest in order to be valid had the trust been subject to section 45a-491 of the general statutes. If no person holds such powers, sections 45a-490 to 45a-496, inclusive, of the general statutes, as amended by this act, shall apply to that nonvested property interest or power of appointment.

Sec. 117. Section 45a-482 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2018*):

When the facts at the time of distribution from an estate to a trust or from a testamentary trust to a successive trust are such that no trust would be operative under the terms of the instrument creating such trust or successive trust because of the death of the life tenant, or because the beneficiary has reached a stipulated age, or if such trust would qualify for termination under section [45a-484] 35 of this act, or for any other reason, the fiduciary of such estate or prior trust may distribute, with the approval of the court of probate having jurisdiction, directly from the estate or prior trust to the remaindermen of such trust, the corpus of such trust and any income earned during

the period of estate administration or administration of the prior trust and distributable to such remaindermen, without the interposition of the establishment of such trust or successive trust. If distribution is based on the fact that the trust would qualify for termination under section [45a-484] section 35 of this act, reasonable notice shall be provided to all beneficiaries who are known and in being and who have vested or contingent interests in the trust.

- Sec. 118. Section 52-321 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2018*):
- 2165 [Except as provided in sections 52-321a and 52-352b:
- (a) If property has been given to trustees to pay over the income to any person, without provision for accumulation or express authorization to the trustees to withhold the income, and the income has not been expressly given for the support of the beneficiary or his family, the income shall be liable in equity to the claims of all creditors of the beneficiary.
 - (b) Any creditor of the beneficiary who has secured a judgment against the beneficiary may bring an action against him and serve the trustees with garnishee process, and the court to which the action is returnable may direct the trustees to pay over the net income derived from the trust estate to the judgment creditor, as the income may accrue, until the creditor's debt is satisfied.
 - (c) The court having jurisdiction over the fund may make such an order for payment pursuant to subsection (b) when the beneficiary is a nonresident of this state, as well as when the beneficiary is a resident, but in the case of a nonresident beneficiary notice shall be given to the nonresident of the action against him as provided in section 52-87. The nonresidence of the beneficiary shall not deprive the court of authority to make such an order.
- 2185 (d) If any such trust has been expressly provided to be for the support of the beneficiary or his family, a court of equity having

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jurisdiction may make such order regarding the surplus, if any, not required for the support of the beneficiary or his family, as justice and equity may require.

- (e) The defendant trustee in any such action] <u>In any action brought</u> by a creditor of a beneficiary of a trust to enforce a judgment against the beneficiary in which the defendant trustee is served with garnishee <u>process</u>, the trustee shall be entitled to charge in the administration account of the trust such expenses and disbursements as the court to which the action is brought determines to be reasonable and proper.
- Sec. 119. Section 45a-474 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2018*):

When a will, trust agreement or other instrument establishing a trust fails to provide for the contingency of the trustee's refusal to accept the trust or the trustee's resignation, death or incapacity, the Probate Court for the district within which the estate is situated, or, when the trust has been created by will, in the district having jurisdiction of such will, may, on the happening of any such contingency, appoint some suitable person to fill such vacancy, taking from him a probate bond, unless in the case of a will it is otherwise provided therein. [, in which case the provisions of section 45a-473 shall apply.] The court may appoint a successor trustee of an inter vivos trust before such contingency has occurred if the court finds that a vacancy in the office of trustee is likely to occur. The court shall specify the conditions that the successor trustee of such inter vivos trust must satisfy before becoming trustee. In the event of a vacancy in the office of trustee of such inter vivos trust, the successor trustee may assume the office immediately upon satisfying the conditions set forth in the court's order without further court action.

Sec. 120. Sections 45a-473, 45a-484 and 45a-487 to 45a-487f, inclusive, of the general statutes are repealed. (*Effective October 1, 2018*)

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This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following			
sections:			
Section 1	<i>October</i> 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 2	<i>October</i> 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 3	October 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 4	<i>October</i> 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 5	October 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 6	<i>October</i> 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 7	<i>October</i> 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 8	<i>October</i> 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 9	<i>October 1, 2018</i>	New section	
Sec. 10	<i>October 1, 2018</i>	New section	
Sec. 11	October 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 12	<i>October 1, 2018</i>	New section	
Sec. 13	<i>October 1, 2018</i>	New section	
Sec. 14	<i>October</i> 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 15	<i>October</i> 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 16	<i>October</i> 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 17	<i>October 1, 2018</i>	New section	
Sec. 18	October 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 19	<i>October 1, 2018</i>	New section	
Sec. 20	October 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 21	October 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 22	October 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 23	October 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 24	October 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 25	October 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 26	October 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 27	October 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 28	October 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 29	October 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 30	October 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 31	October 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 32	October 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 33	October 1, 2018	New section	
Sec. 34	October 1, 2018	New section	
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Sec. 106	October 1, 2018	New section
Sec. 107	October 1, 2018	New section
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Sec. 110	October 1, 2018	New section
Sec. 111	October 1, 2018	New section
Sec. 112	October 1, 2018	New section
Sec. 113	October 1, 2018	New section
Sec. 114	October 1, 2018	45a-490
Sec. 115	October 1, 2018	45a-495
Sec. 116	October 1, 2018	New section
Sec. 117	October 1, 2018	45a-482
Sec. 118	October 1, 2018	52-321
Sec. 119	October 1, 2018	45a-474
Sec. 120	October 1, 2018	Repealer section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 2, "provided" was changed to "except" for clarity; in Sec. 3(18) "5" was changed to "91" for accuracy; in Sec. 4, "individual" was changed to "employee" for consistency; in Sec. 85(a) "or said office" was added after "person" for accuracy; in Sec. 93, "91" was changed to "92" for accuracy; in Sec. 107(9), "Qualified person" was changed to "Qualified trustee" for consistency with the defined term; and in Sec. 110(2), "tortuous" was changed to "tortious" for accuracy.

JUD Joint Favorable Subst.

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: See Below

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill establishes numerous rules on creating, modifying, terminating, and enforcing trusts. To the extent the bill affects Medicaid eligibility for certain individuals, it could impact related Department of Social Services (DSS) expenditures and federal reimbursement.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

sSB397 / File No. 579

OLR Bill Analysis sSB 397

AN ACT CONCERNING ADOPTION OF THE UNIFORM TRUST CODE, THE CONNECTICUT UNIFORM DIRECTED TRUST ACT AND THE CONNECTICUT QUALIFIED DISPOSITIONS IN TRUST ACT.

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

SUMMARY

§§ 1-12 — CONNECTICUT UNIFORM TRUST CODE (TRUST CODE): GENERAL PROVISIONS

Establishes the code's scope; defines terms; provides that the code is a set of default rules that a trust can override, with exceptions; and addresses several other matters, such as methods of providing notice and nonjudicial settlement agreements

§§ 13-16 — TRUST CODE: JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Provides that testamentary trusts, and not inter vivos trusts, are subject to continuing judicial supervision; addresses jurisdiction and venue over trust-related court matters

§§ 17-21 & 120 —TRUST CODE: REPRESENTATION

Establishes rules for representation, such as when a fiduciary may represent and bind a trust beneficiary

§§ 22-38 & 120 — TRUST CODE: CREATION, VALIDITY, MODIFICATION, AND TERMINATION OF A TRUST

Establishes methods for creating, modifying, or terminating a trust, including both general and specific rules for different types of trusts

§§ 39-46 — TRUST CODE: CREDITOR'S CLAIMS; SPENDTHRIFT AND DISCRETIONARY TRUSTS

Sets rules for spendthrift provisions and for when creditors of the settlor and beneficiaries can reach the trust's property

§§ 47-50 — TRUST CODE: REVOCABLE TRUSTS

Sets rules for revocable trusts, including when they can be revoked or amended and distribution upon the settlor's death

§§ 51-59 & 120 — TRUST CODE: OFFICE OF TRUSTEE

Establishes standards for several trustee-related matters, such as accepting the trusteeship, resignation or other vacancies, and compensation

§§ 60-74 & 120 — TRUST CODE: DUTIES AND POWERS OF TRUSTEE

Establishes trustees' duties on matters such as loyalty and avoiding conflicts of interest, recordkeeping, and reporting to beneficiaries; sets forth the general and specific authority of trustees

§§ 75-86 — TRUST CODE: LIABILITY OF TRUSTEES AND RIGHTS OF PERSONS DEALING WITH TRUSTEE

Establishes when a trustee is liable to a beneficiary or certain other parties and sets related requirements

§§ 86 & 87 — TRUST CODE: MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Addresses uniformity of interpretation and severability

§§ 88-105 — CONNECTICUT UNIFORM DIRECTED TRUST ACT

Outlines the powers and obligations of parties administering directed trusts (i.e., trusts in which a person other than a trustee has a power over the trust's administration)

§§ 106-112 — CONNECTICUT QUALIFIED DISPOSITIONS IN TRUST ACT

Sets up a framework for creating self-settled asset protection trusts, the assets of which (1) creditors generally cannot reach and (2) the grantor may still benefit personally from

§ 113 — APPLICABILITY

Establishes rules for the bill's applicability, such as that it generally applies to all trusts no matter when created

§§ 114-116 — CHANGES TO THE RULE AGAINST PERPETUITIES

Limits the application of the common law and statutory rules against perpetuities; changes the name of the Uniform Statutory Rule Against Perpetuities

SUMMARY

This bill establishes numerous rules on creating, modifying, terminating, and enforcing trusts (§§ 1-87). A trust, generally speaking, is an arrangement in which one person, called the trustee, holds money or other property for the benefit of another person, called the beneficiary. The trustee owes certain duties to the beneficiary with regard to safeguarding, managing, and disposing of the trust property and income according to the terms of the trust. The person who creates the trust is called the settlor.

With some exceptions, the bill establishes default rules that the terms of a trust can override. Among several other topics, the bill addresses the trustee's duties, powers, and liability; the rights of creditors; revocable trusts (in which the settlor retains the authority to amend or revoke the trust); representation of beneficiaries or other parties; and establishing a trust's principal place of administration.

The bill outlines the powers and obligations of parties administering directed trusts, which are trusts in which a person other than a trustee has a power over some aspect of the trust's administration. Among other things, the bill addresses trust directors' and directed trustees' fiduciary duties (§§ 88-105).

It sets up a framework for creating self-settled asset protection trusts, which are irrevocable trusts, the assets of which (1) creditors generally cannot reach and (2) the grantor may still benefit personally from (§§ 106-112).

The bill makes changes to the rule against perpetuities, including generally limiting the statutory rule's application to trusts created before October 1, 2018 (§§ 114-116).

It also makes technical and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2018

§§ 1-12 — CONNECTICUT UNIFORM TRUST CODE (TRUST CODE): GENERAL PROVISIONS

Establishes the code's scope; defines terms; provides that the code is a set of default rules that a trust can override, with exceptions; and addresses several other matters, such as methods of providing notice and nonjudicial settlement agreements

Scope and Definitions (§§ 2 & 3)

The bill applies to:

- 1. express trusts, whether testamentary (i.e., created under a will) or inter vivos (i.e., non-testamentary trusts);
- 2. trusts created under a statute or court order requiring a trust to be administered as an express trust; and
- 3. charitable trusts (i.e., a trust, or portion of one, created for a charitable purpose when property is dedicated for that purpose).

It does not apply to statutory trusts created under the existing Connecticut Statutory Trust Act (CGS § 34-500 et seq.).

Knowledge of Facts; Methods and Waiver of Notice (§§ 4 & 9)

The bill sets standards for (1) determining when a person has knowledge of a fact involving a trust and (2) the manner for a trustee or someone else to provide required notices or documents. Among other things, it:

- 1. provides that an organization has notice or knowledge of a fact from the time (a) an employee responsible for acting for the trust received the information or (b) it would have been brought to the employee's attention if the organization had exercised reasonable diligence;
- 2. requires that notices or documents be sent in a reasonably suitable manner likely to result in their receipt, such as first-class mail or personal delivery; and
- 3. allows the intended recipient to waive receipt of a notice or document.

Default and Mandatory Rules (§ 5)

Except as the trust otherwise provides, the bill governs (1) trustees' duties and powers, (2) relations among trustees, and (3) beneficiaries' rights and interests.

It generally allows the terms of a trust to override the bill's provisions, with 11 enumerated exceptions. These exceptions include, among other things, (1) requirements for creating a trust; (2) the trustee's duty to act in good faith; (3) certain court powers, such as to modify or terminate a trust under certain circumstances; and (4) the effect of a spendthrift provision. (See § 5(b) of the bill for the complete list of exceptions.)

Common Law, Principles of Equity, and Governing Law (§§ 6 & 7)

The bill specifies that the common law (judge-made law) of trusts and principles of equity supplement its provisions, except to the extent the bill or a statute modifies them.

It requires that the meaning of a trust's terms be determined by the law of (1) the jurisdiction the trust designates, unless the designation is contrary to a strong public policy of the jurisdiction having the most significant relationship to the matter or (2) in the absence of such a designation, the jurisdiction having the most significant relationship to the matter.

Principal Place of Administration (§ 8)

The bill establishes a non-exhaustive list of standards under which a trust's designation of its principal place of administration is valid (e.g., if the trustee lives or works there). It provides that a trustee is under a continuing duty to administer the trust at a location appropriate to its purposes and administration and the beneficiaries' interests.

With some exceptions, the bill allows trustees to transfer the administration of trusts to other states or foreign jurisdictions. It requires court approval to transfer testamentary trusts and prohibits the transfer of charitable trusts to jurisdictions outside the country.

Before transferring a trust's principal place of administration, the bill requires a trustee to provide at least 60 days' notice, with specified information, to the qualified beneficiaries. A trustee's transfer authority terminates if a qualified beneficiary timely objects. Under the bill, "qualified beneficiaries" are those who (1) are currently eligible to receive a trust distribution or (2) would be eligible upon termination of the trust or current qualified beneficiaries' interests.

Others Treated as Qualified Beneficiaries (§ 10)

Under the bill, if a trustee is required to send a notice to the trust's qualified beneficiaries, the trustee must also give notice to any other beneficiary who requests it.

Additionally, the bill grants the rights of a qualified beneficiary to:

1. a charitable organization that the trust expressly designated to receive distributions, if certain conditions are met;

2. the attorney general, with respect to charitable trusts administered in Connecticut; and

3. a person appointed to enforce a (a) trust created for an animal's care or (b) noncharitable trust without an ascertainable beneficiary (see § 29).

Nonjudicial Settlement Agreements (§ 11)

The bill generally allows interested persons to enter into binding nonjudicial settlement agreements for matters involving inter vivos trusts. Such an agreement is valid only if it (1) does not violate a material purpose of the trust and (2) includes terms that a court could properly approve.

The bill specifies matters that may be resolved in this way, such as (1) interpreting a trust's terms or (2) a trustee's liability for a trust-related action. It does not allow a settlement agreement to modify or terminate an irrevocable trust.

It allows an interested person to request that a court approve the agreement and determine whether (1) the agreement contains terms the court can properly approve and (2) adequate representation was provided (see §§ 17-21 below).

Insurable Interest of Trustee (§ 12)

The bill establishes the conditions under which a trustee has an insurable interest in the life of someone insured under a life insurance policy owned by the trustee or the trust. Generally, this applies if the insured is the settlor or someone in whom the settlor has an insurable interest. The insurance proceeds must primarily benefit trust beneficiaries that (1) have an insurable interest in the insured's life or (2) are certain family members of the insured.

§§ 13-16 — TRUST CODE: JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS

Provides that testamentary trusts, and not intervivos trusts, are subject to continuing judicial supervision; addresses jurisdiction and venue over trust-related court matters

Role of Court in Administration of Trust (§ 13)

The bill provides that (1) an inter vivos trust is not subject to continuing judicial supervision and (2) a testamentary trust is subject to such supervision until its administration is transferred to another state pursuant to other Connecticut law.

Personal and Subject Matter Jurisdiction and Venue (§§ 14-16)

Under the bill, a trustee submits to the personal jurisdiction of Connecticut's courts regarding any trust matter by (1) accepting the trusteeship of a trust having its principal place of administration in this state or (2) moving the trust to this state. Beneficiaries of a trust administered in Connecticut are subject to the jurisdiction of the state's courts regarding any trust matter.

The bill specifies that subject matter jurisdiction and venue for a proceeding under the bill are determined by other Connecticut law.

§§ 17-21 & 120 —TRUST CODE: REPRESENTATION

Establishes rules for representation, such as when a fiduciary may represent and bind a trust beneficiary

Basic Effect (§ 17)

Under the bill, (1) notice to a person's representative has the same effect as if the person was directly notified and (2) a representative's consent is binding unless the represented person objects before the consent takes effect. The bill generally allows a person representing a settlor who lacks capacity to give binding consent on the settlor's behalf.

Notwithstanding any other law, the bill's representation provisions apply to all judicial proceedings and all nonjudicial settlements or actions. It specifies that a non-attorney cannot serve as someone's legal counsel.

Fiduciaries and Other Representatives (§§ 18-21 & 120)

The bill requires the holders of a power of appointment to represent the appointee unless there is a conflict of interest between them. It sets a similar requirement for holders of a power of revocation or general power of appointment to represent the takers in default.

Additionally, unless there is a conflict of interest, the bill establishes the following conditions for representing and binding parties and estates:

- 1. conservators, guardians, agents, trustees, and estate executors and administrators may represent and bind another party or estate, as applicable;
- 2. a parent may represent and bind his or her minor or unborn child, if a conservator or guardian has not been appointed; and
- 3. unless otherwise represented, minors, incapacitated or unborn persons, or those whose identity is unknown and not reasonably ascertainable, may be represented and bound by another person having a substantially identical interest.

For the latter, if any such person is not represented or the available representation is inadequate, a court may appoint a guardian ad litem (GAL) for the person. In making any decisions, the GAL may consider general benefit accruing to the living members of the person's family.

The bill also repeals current laws on these matters, which contain generally similar provisions (CGS §§ 45a-487a to 487f).

§§ 22-38 & 120 — TRUST CODE: CREATION, VALIDITY, MODIFICATION, AND TERMINATION OF A TRUST

Establishes methods for creating, modifying, or terminating a trust, including both general and specific rules for different types of trusts

Methods of Creating a Trust; Oral Trusts (§§ 22 & 28)

The bill allows a trust to be created by:

- 1. transferring property to someone else as trustee during the settlor's lifetime, or by will or other disposition that takes effect upon the settlor's death;
- 2. the property owner's declaration that he or she holds identifiable property as trustee;
- 3. exercising a power of appointment in favor of a trustee;

4. transferring property under a statute or court judgment requiring property to be administered as an express trust; or

5. court order.

Under the bill, unless another law requires otherwise, a trust need not be in writing, but the creation of an oral trust and its terms must be established by clear and convincing evidence.

Requirements for Creation; Purposes; Void Trusts (§§ 23, 25, & 27)

Under the bill, a trust is created only if the:

- 1. settlor has capacity and indicates an intention to do so;
- trustee has duties to perform; and
- 3. trust has a definite beneficiary or is a charitable trust, trust for the care of an animal, or trust for non-charitable purposes that meets the bill's requirements (see § 29).

The bill allows a trustee to select a beneficiary from an indefinite class, but that authority fails if it is not exercised within a reasonable time.

It allows a trust to be created only to the extent its purposes are lawful and not contrary to public policy. It makes a trust or trust provision void if its creation was induced by fraud, duress, or undue influence.

Trusts Created in Other Jurisdictions (§ 24)

Under the bill, an inter vivos trust is valid if its creation complies with the law of the jurisdiction (1) where it was executed or (2) in which, upon its creation:

- 1. the settlor was domiciled, had a residence, or was a national;
- 2. a trustee was domiciled or had a business; or

3. any trust property was located.

Charitable Purposes; Enforcement (§ 26)

The bill authorizes a charitable trust to be created to relieve poverty; advance education or religion; promote health, governmental, or municipal purposes; or for other purposes that benefit the community. The settlor of a charitable trust may enforce it in court only if he or she expressly retained that right in the trust.

If a charitable trust does not indicate a particular charitable purpose or beneficiary, and if the trustee is not given discretion to select the beneficiaries, the court may select them. The court must do this consistent with the settlor's intent to the extent it can be determined.

Noncharitable Trust Without an Ascertainable Beneficiary (§ 29)

The bill allows a trust to be created for (1) general but noncharitable purposes or (2) specific noncharitable purposes the trustee selects. Such a trust may be enforced for up to 90 years by someone appointed in the trust or, if none, a court-appointed person. The trust's property may be applied only to its intended use, unless the court determines that the property's value exceeds the amount required for that use. Unless the trust provides otherwise, property not required for the intended use must be distributed to the settlor.

These provisions apply except as otherwise provided in existing law, including the law on trusts for an animal's care (CGS § 45a-489a).

Modification or Termination (§ 30)

Under the bill:

- 1. a charitable trust terminates only in accordance with existing law's requirements (see CGS § 45a-520) and
- 2. a noncharitable trust terminates if it is revoked or expires, no trust purpose remains to be achieved, or its purposes have become unlawful, contrary to public policy, or impossible to

achieve.

A trustee or beneficiary, or the attorney general for a charitable trust, may bring a court proceeding to approve or disapprove a modification, termination, combination, or division. A charitable trust's settlor may bring a proceeding to modify the trust if he or she expressly retained that right.

Modification or Termination by Consent (§ 31)

The bill sets standards for terminating or modifying trusts with consent of the qualified beneficiaries, with or without the settlor's consent. For example, for noncharitable irrevocable trusts:

- 1. if the settlor and all qualified beneficiaries consent, the court can approve a modification or termination even if it is inconsistent with the trust's material purpose, and
- 2. if the trustee and all qualified beneficiaries consent, the court can approve such an action only if it is not inconsistent with the material purpose and settlor's probable intent.

Upon the termination, the trustee must distribute the property as the beneficiaries agree.

To approve such a modification or termination when the trustee but not all beneficiaries consent, the court must find, among other things, that the interests of non-consenting beneficiaries will be protected.

Modification or Termination Due to Unanticipated Circumstances (§ 32)

The bill allows a court to:

- 1. modify or terminate a noncharitable trust if doing so would further the trust's purposes, due to circumstances not anticipated by the settlor, or
- 2. modify a trust's administrative terms if continuing the existing terms would be impracticable, wasteful, or impair the trust's

administration.

Upon the termination, the trustee must distribute the property in a manner consistent with the trust's purposes.

Cy Pres (§§ 33 & 34)

Generally, the bill provides that if a particular charitable purpose becomes impossible, impracticable, or illegal, the court may apply the common law "cy pres" doctrine to modify the trust, by directing the property to be distributed in a manner consistent with the settlor's purposes. In certain circumstances, it provides that a charitable trust's provision that would distribute the property to a noncharitable beneficiary prevails over the court's power to apply cy pres.

Modification or Termination of Uneconomic Trust (§§ 35 & 120)

Under certain conditions, the bill allows a trustee to terminate a noncharitable trust valued at under \$200,000 if the property's value or character does not justify the cost of administration. If the trust is testamentary, court approval is required. The bill also allows courts to modify or terminate a trust, or replace the trustee, for trusts valued at under \$200,000. In any such case, the trustee must distribute the property in a manner consistent with the trust's purposes.

The bill also repeals a law which contains generally similar provisions on the termination of trusts valued at under \$50,000 (CGS § 45a-484).

Reformation to Correct Mistakes (§ 36)

Under the bill, a court may reform a trust's terms to conform to the settlor's intention if it is proved by clear and convincing evidence what the intention was and that there was a mistake of fact or law.

Modification to Achieve Settlor's Tax Objectives (§ 37)

The bill authorizes a court to modify a trust to achieve the settlor's tax objectives in a manner that is not contrary to the settlor's probable intention. The court may make the modification retroactive.

Combination and Division (§ 38)

The bill allows a trustee, after notifying current beneficiaries, to combine multiple trusts or divide a trust into separate trusts, if it does not impair any beneficiary's rights or the trust's purposes.

§§ 39-46 — TRUST CODE: CREDITOR'S CLAIMS; SPENDTHRIFT AND DISCRETIONARY TRUSTS

Sets rules for spendthrift provisions and for when creditors of the settlor and beneficiaries can reach the trust's property

Rights of Beneficiary's Creditor or Assignee (§§ 39 & 46)

Generally, to the extent a beneficiary's trust interest is not subject to a spendthrift provision (see § 40) and except as provided below, the bill allows courts to authorize a beneficiary's creditor or assignee to reach that interest by attaching present or future distributions to, or for the benefit of, the beneficiary. The court may limit relief as is appropriate under the circumstances.

The bill prohibits trustees of charitable trusts, or persons holding and administering endowment or institutional funds, from mortgaging or otherwise encumbering certain assets that were funded by charitable gifts. It prohibits creditors, receivers, or bankruptcy trustees from attaching such funds to (1) pay a charitable beneficiary's debt or (2) include the asset in the receivership or bankruptcy estate.

The bill also prohibits a beneficiary's creditor, other than a settlor's creditor if the settlor is also a beneficiary, from attaching or compelling a distribution of property that is subject to a power of withdrawal or power to make distributions in three specific situations (see § 46(a)). For example, the prohibition applies if the beneficiary holds a power of withdrawal and the property's value does not exceed the greater of certain amounts specified in relevant portions of the federal tax code in effect on October 1, 2018.

Under the bill, a beneficiary holding such a power may not be treated as a settlor of the trust during the period the power may be exercised or upon the power's lapse, release, or waiver.

Spendthrift Provisions (§§ 40 & 41)

A "spendthrift provision" allows the settlor to restrain the transfer of a beneficiary's interest. The bill specifies that a spendthrift provision is valid only if it restrains both voluntary and involuntary transfers. A restraint on voluntary transfers includes requiring the beneficiary to obtain someone else's consent before a transfer. Under the bill, spendthrift provisions are valid even if a beneficiary is a trustee.

The bill prohibits a beneficiary from transferring an interest in violation of a valid spendthrift provision. It also prohibits, except as otherwise provided in the bill, a beneficiary's creditor or assignee from reaching the interest or a trustee's distribution before the beneficiary receives it.

Under the bill, spendthrift provisions are enforceable against the beneficiary's former spouse. But even for trusts containing a spendthrift provision, if a beneficiary's child has a court judgment against the beneficiary for support, the bill allows the child to obtain a court order attaching present and future distributions. The child may do this only if the distributions can be made for the beneficiary's support under the trust.

Discretionary Trusts; Effect of Standard (§ 42)

Under the bill, whether or not the trust contains a spendthrift provision, a beneficiary's creditor generally may not compel a distribution that is subject to the trustee's discretion, even if (1) the discretion is expressed through a distribution standard or (2) the trustee has abused the discretion. But, if a trustee has not complied with a standard or has abused his or her discretion, the court may:

- 1. order a distribution to satisfy a judgment against the beneficiary for child support and
- 2. direct the trustee to pay the child only an equitable amount, but no more than what the trustee would have been required to distribute for the beneficiary had the trustee complied.

The bill does not limit a beneficiary's existing right to maintain a judicial proceeding against a trustee for such actions.

Creditor's Claim Against Settlor (§ 43)

The bill sets rules for when a settlor's creditors can reach the trust's assets. These rules apply regardless of whether the trust contains a spendthrift provision and except as provided in the bill's provisions on qualified dispositions.

Under the bill, (1) a revocable trust's property is subject to claims of the settlor's creditors during the settlor's lifetime and (2) for irrevocable trusts, creditors may generally reach the maximum amount that can be distributed to or for the settlor. But the bill establishes certain exceptions, such as permitting the court to limit a creditor's award for a special needs trust created under specified federal law. Specifically, after notifying the creditor and the state, the court may limit the creditor's award to appropriate relief under the circumstances, after considering the beneficiary's needs.

The bill also sets rules for when a holder of a power of withdrawal is treated in the same manner as a settlor.

Overdue Distribution (§ 44)

The bill generally allows, whether or not a trust contains a spendthrift provision, a beneficiary's creditor or assignee to reach a mandatory distribution of income or principal, including a distribution upon the trust's termination. A creditor or assignee may do this if the trustee did not make the distribution to the beneficiary within a reasonable time after the mandated date.

Personal Obligations of Trustee (§ 45)

The bill specifies that trust property is not subject to the trustee's personal obligations, even if the trustee becomes insolvent or bankrupt.

§§ 47-50 — TRUST CODE: REVOCABLE TRUSTS

Sets rules for revocable trusts, including when they can be revoked or amended and distribution upon the settlor's death

Capacity of Settlor (§ 47)

The bill specifies that the capacity a person needs to create, amend, revoke, or add property to a revocable trust, or to direct the trustee's actions, is the same as the capacity needed to make a will (i.e., be an adult of sound mind).

Revocation or Amendment (§ 48)

The bill generally gives the settlor the right to revoke or amend a trust, unless the trust expressly provides otherwise. But this does not apply to (1) trusts created before October 1, 2018, (2) charitable pledges, or (3) other charitable gifts in which the interest has vested.

The bill establishes several related rules, such as providing that:

- 1. a settlor may revoke or amend a revocable trust by substantial compliance with a method the trust provides;
- if a trust does not provide a method, a settlor may revoke or amend it by (a) executing a later will or codicil that meets certain criteria or (b) any other method showing clear and convincing evidence of the settlor's intent, subject to certain conditions; and
- 3. upon revocation, the trustee must deliver the property as the settlor directs.

The bill also addresses related issues, such as establishing a process for revoking or amending a trust created or funded by multiple settlors.

Under the bill, if a trustee does not know that a trust was revoked or amended, he or she is not liable to the settlor for actions taken on the assumption that it was still in effect.

Additionally, a special needs trust created under specified federal law is irrevocable if the trust prohibits revocation, even if the settlor's

estate or heirs are named as the remainder beneficiaries upon the settlor's death.

Settlor's Powers; Powers of Withdrawal (§ 49)

Under the bill, if a trust is revocable by the settlor alone, or in some cases, the settlor and other specified persons (e.g., someone other than the trustee), a trustee may follow their directions that are contrary to the trust's terms. If a settlor has capacity to revoke a trust, the beneficiaries' rights are subject to the settlor's control, and the trustee's duties are owed exclusively to the settlor.

During the period the power to revoke may be exercised, the holder of a power of withdrawal has the rights of a settlor of a revocable trust with respect to the property subject to the power.

Action Contesting Trust's Validity; Distribution (§ 50)

The bill allows a person (e.g., a beneficiary) to file a lawsuit contesting the validity of a trust that was revocable at the settlor's death within the earlier of (1) one year after the death or (2) 60 days after the trustee sent the person a copy of the trust instrument and a notice with certain related information.

Upon the death of the trust's settlor, the trustee may distribute the trust property in accordance with the trust's terms. The trustee is not liable for doing so except in certain circumstances (e.g., if the trustee knows of a pending judicial proceeding contesting the trust's validity). A beneficiary of a trust that is deemed invalid is liable to return any distribution he or she received.

§§ 51-59 & 120 — TRUST CODE: OFFICE OF TRUSTEE

Establishes standards for several trustee-related matters, such as accepting the trusteeship, resignation or other vacancies, and compensation

Accepting or Declining Trusteeship (§ 51)

Under the bill, a person designated as trustee accepts the role by substantially complying with the trust's acceptance method, or if none, by accepting delivery of the trust property, exercising trustee powers or duties, or otherwise indicating acceptance. For

testamentary trusts, the person must file an acceptance in court.

The bill allows a person designated as trustee to reject it. Failure to accept within a reasonable time is deemed a rejection. Without accepting the trusteeship, a person designated as trustee may (1) act to preserve the trust property under certain conditions and (2) inspect the trust property to determine potential liability issues.

Trustee's Bond (§§ 52 & 120)

The bill requires the trustee to give a bond only if the court finds it is needed to protect the beneficiaries' interests or the trust requires it and, for noncharitable trusts, the court has not dispensed with the requirement. The court may (1) specify the amount of a bond, its liabilities, and whether sureties are necessary and (2) except for charitable trusts, modify or terminate a bond at any time.

Testamentary trustees that are foreign corporations must also comply with the law requiring them to appoint the secretary of the state as agent for service of process (see CGS § 45a-206).

The bill repeals the current requirement that, for trustees appointed by a testator to execute a trust created by a will, the probate court require a bond, unless the will provides otherwise (CGS § 45a-473).

Co-Trustees (§ 53)

The bill sets rules for co-trustees. For example, it (1) allows them to act by majority decision, (2) specifies when a co-trustee may delegate functions to another co-trustee, and (3) requires a co-trustee to participate in the performance of trustee functions unless he or she is unavailable (e.g., due to illness) or has delegated the function.

Under the bill, a trustee who does not join in an action of another trustee is generally not liable for the action. But the bill requires each trustee to exercise reasonable care to (1) prevent a co-trustee from committing a serious breach of trust and (2) compel a co-trustee to redress such a breach. A dissenting trustee who joins in an action at the direction of the majority and who timely notified any co-trustee of

the dissent is not liable for the action unless it is a serious breach.

Vacancy; Appointment of Successor (§ 54)

Under the bill, unless the trust requires it, if at least one co-trustee remains in office, a vacancy in a trusteeship need not be filled. But a vacancy must be filled if (1) there is no remaining trustee or (2) it is a charitable trust, unless the trust's terms excuse the vacancy.

The bill (1) establishes the order of priority for filling a vacancy and (2) even if there is no vacancy, allows a court to appoint an additional trustee or special fiduciary if the court deems it necessary.

Resignation or Removal of Trustee (§§ 55 & 56)

The bill allows trustees to resign without court approval, by providing at least 30 days' notice to certain parties. It also allows trustees of testamentary trusts to resign without providing such notice, with court approval. In the latter case, the court may impose conditions to protect the property, beneficiaries, and other trustees. Resignation does not discharge any liability of the trustee.

The bill specifies which parties have the right to ask the court to remove a trustee (e.g., the beneficiaries, or in the case of a charitable trust, the attorney general) and also allows the court to remove a trustee on its own initiative. A court may remove a trustee for, among other things, a serious breach of trust or lack of cooperation among cotrustees that substantially impairs its administration.

Delivery of Property by Former Trustee (§ 57)

The bill requires a trustee who has resigned or been removed to continue to protect the property, unless a co-trustee remains or the court orders otherwise, until the property is delivered to a successor trustee or other person entitled to it. A trustee who has resigned or been removed must expeditiously deliver the property to the co-trustee, successor trustee, or other person entitled to it.

Trustee Compensation; Reimbursement of Expenses (§§ 58 & 59)

The bill gives a trustee the right to compensation that is

reasonable under the circumstances if the trust does not specify the compensation. When a trust specifies the compensation, the trustee is entitled to it, except the court may allow a different amount if (1) the trustee's duties are substantially different from those contemplated when the trust was created or (2) the specified compensation is unreasonably low or high.

The bill establishes when a trustee has the right to be reimbursed out of the trust property, with interest, for expenses. In addition, an advance by the trustee of money to protect the trust creates a lien against the trust property to secure reimbursement with reasonable interest.

§§ 60-74 & 120 — TRUST CODE: DUTIES AND POWERS OF TRUSTEE

Establishes trustees' duties on matters such as loyalty and avoiding conflicts of interest, recordkeeping, and reporting to beneficiaries; sets forth the general and specific authority of trustees

Duty to Administer Trust; Prudent Administration; Impartiality; Property Protection (§§ 60, 62-63, & 66)

The bill requires a trustee to administer the trust in good faith and according to its terms and purposes, the settlor's intent, the beneficiaries' interests, and the bill's provisions. A trustee must administer the trust as a prudent person would.

A trustee must take reasonable steps to control and protect the trust property. If there are multiple beneficiaries, the trustee must act impartially in investing, managing and distributing the trust property.

Duty of Loyalty (§ 61)

The bill requires a trustee to administer the trust assets solely in the beneficiaries' interests consistent with the settlor's intent. It sets several related rules regarding trustee conflicts of interest.

Under the bill, a transaction affected by a conflict between the trustee's fiduciary and personal interests is generally voidable by an affected beneficiary, subject to certain exceptions. The transaction is not voidable if, for example, (1) it was authorized by the trust's terms

or approved by the court or (2) the beneficiary consented. The bill establishes conditions under which a transaction is presumed to present a conflict (e.g., if the trustee enters the transaction with certain close family members).

Certain transactions between the trustee and beneficiary not involving the trust property are voidable, unless the trustee establishes that the transaction was fair to the beneficiary. It is a conflict for a trustee, in his or her personal capacity, to enter a transaction not involving the trust property if it concerns an opportunity properly belonging to the trust.

The bill provides that certain types of investments are not presumed to present a conflict of interest if they comply with the existing prudent investor law, are in the best interests of the beneficiaries, and are not prohibited by the trust. If the trust is the sole owner of a business, the trustee must select directors or other managers who will manage it in the best interests of the beneficiaries.

The bill specifies that it does not prevent certain transactions if fair to the beneficiaries, such as (1) paying reasonable compensation to the trustee or (2) depositing trust money in a financial service institution operated by the trustee.

The bill allows a court to appoint a special fiduciary to decide whether any proposed transaction would violate these conflict of interest provisions.

Delegation by Trustee (§ 64)

The bill allows trustees to delegate duties and powers that a prudent trustee of comparable skills could properly delegate under the circumstances. The trustee must exercise reasonable care in doing so and must periodically monitor the agent's actions. If the trustee complies with these requirements, he or she is not liable for the agent's actions.

By accepting the delegated functions, the agent is subject to

Connecticut law and owes a duty to the trust to exercise reasonable care to comply with the terms of the delegation.

Awarding of Costs and Attorney's Fees (§ 65)

The bill allows courts, in a proceeding relating to a trust's administration, to award costs and reasonable attorney's fees to be paid by another party or from the trust.

Recordkeeping and Identification of Trust Property (§ 67)

The bill requires a trustee to (1) keep adequate records, (2) keep trust property separate from his or her own property, and (3) cause the trust property to be designated so that the trust's interest, if feasible, appears in records maintained by someone other than a trustee or beneficiary.

It authorizes a trustee to invest as a whole the property of separate trusts, if he or she keeps records that clearly indicate the respective interests.

Enforcement and Defense of Claims (§ 68)

The bill requires a trustee to take reasonable steps to enforce trust claims and to defend claims against the trust.

Collecting Trust Property (§ 69)

The bill requires a trustee to take reasonable steps to compel a former trustee or other person to deliver trust property to the trustee, and to redress a known breach of trust by a former trustee.

Duty to Inform and Report (§ 70)

The bill requires a trustee to (1) keep the qualified beneficiaries reasonably informed about the trust's administration and the material facts necessary for them to protect their interests and (2) promptly respond to their requests for the trustee's reports and other related information. This does not apply if disclosure would be unreasonable under the circumstances.

The bill requires a trustee to:

1. upon a qualified beneficiary's request, promptly provide a copy of the trust instrument;

- 2. within 60 days after accepting a trusteeship, notify the qualified beneficiaries and provide his or her contact information; and
- 3. within 60 days after learning that an irrevocable trust was created or that a trust became irrevocable, notify the current beneficiaries of the trust's existence, the settlor's identity, the right to request a copy, and the right to the trustee's reports.

The trustee's report must include information on the trust property, liabilities, disbursements, trustee compensation, and trust assets (including market values, if feasible). The trustee must send the report annually and upon the trust's termination, to the distributees and to other qualified beneficiaries who request it.

Beneficiaries may waive their right to trustee's reports or other such information. Court approval of a trustee's report forecloses claims by those notified of the proceeding as to matters disclosed in the report.

Discretionary Powers; Tax Savings (§§ 71 & 120)

The bill requires the trustee to exercise a discretionary power in good faith and in accordance with the trust's terms and purposes, the settlor's intentions, and the beneficiaries' interests. This applies regardless of the breadth of discretion that the trust grants to the trustee.

Unless the terms of the trust expressly provide otherwise, the following limitations and prohibitions apply:

1. a person, other than a settlor, who is a beneficiary and trustee of a trust that confers on the trustee a power to make discretionary distributions for the trustee's personal benefit, may exercise the power only in accordance with an ascertainable standard relating to the trustee's health, education, support, or

maintenance within the meaning established in the federal estate and gift tax laws and

2. a trustee may not exercise a power to make discretionary distributions to satisfy a legal obligation of support that the trustee personally owes another person.

A power that is limited or prohibited as described above, may be exercised by a majority of the remaining trustees whose exercise of the power is not so limited or prohibited.

Under the bill, the limitations and prohibitions do not apply to:

- 1. a power held by the settlor's spouse who is the trustee of a trust for which a marital deduction, as defined in the federal estate and gift tax laws, was previously allowed;
- 2. any trust during any period that the settlor may revoke or amend it; or
- 3. a trust if contributions to it qualify for the annual exclusion for a minor's trust under the federal tax laws.

The bill repeals current law on similar matters (e.g., limiting when a trustee is deemed to possess discretionary power to distribute trust income or principal to himself or herself)(CGS § 45a-487).

General and Specific Powers of Trustee (§§ 72 & 73)

The bill allows a trustee, without court authorization and subject to the bill's fiduciary duties, to exercise powers conferred by the trust and, except as limited by the trust:

- 1. all powers over the trust property which an unmarried competent owner has over individually owned property,
- 2. any other powers appropriate to properly invest, manage, and distribute the property, and
- 3. any other powers conferred by the bill.

Without limiting this general authority, the bill authorizes a trustee to perform 26 categories of actions, such as to:

- 1. collect trust property and accept or reject additions to it from a settlor or any other person;
- 2. acquire or sell property, for cash or on credit, at public or private sale;
- 3. exchange, partition, or otherwise change the character of trust property;
- 4. borrow money and mortgage or pledge trust property for a period within or extending beyond the trust's duration; and
- 5. with respect to an interest in a business, continue the business and take any action that may be taken by shareholders, members, or property owners (e.g., merger or dissolution).

(Please refer to § 73(a) of the bill for the complete list.)

The bill's specifically enumerated powers do not apply to charitable trusts to the extent that such powers would authorize the trustee to deviate from a stated charitable purpose or violate a restricted gift.

Distribution Upon Termination (§ 74)

The bill allows the trustee of an inter vivos trust, upon its total or partial termination, to send a distribution proposal to the qualified beneficiaries. Their right to object to the proposal ends in 30 days if the trustee notifies them of that right and the deadline.

When a trust terminates, the trustees must expeditiously distribute the property to the persons entitled to it, but he or she may retain a reasonable reserve to pay debts, expenses, and taxes.

A beneficiary may release a trustee from liability for a breach of trust, but the release is invalid if (1) it was induced by the trustee's improper conduct or (2) the beneficiary did not know his or her rights

or the material facts about the breach.

§§ 75-86 — TRUST CODE: LIABILITY OF TRUSTEES AND RIGHTS OF PERSONS DEALING WITH TRUSTEE

Establishes when a trustee is liable to a beneficiary or certain other parties and sets related requirements

Breach of Trust (§ 75)

The bill makes a trustee's violation of a duty he or she owes to a beneficiary a breach of trust.

Damages in Absence of Breach (§ 76)

Under the bill, even if the trustee did not commit a breach, he or she owes the affected beneficiary any profit the trustee made arising from the trust's administration. The trustee is not liable to a beneficiary for a loss in the value of trust property or for not making a profit, unless he or she committed a breach.

Limitation on Action Against Trustee (§ 77)

The bill allows a beneficiary to bring a lawsuit against a trustee for a breach up to one year after the beneficiary was sent a report adequately disclosing the potential claim and informing the beneficiary of the one-year limit. Under the bill, a report adequately discloses the existence of a potential claim if it provides sufficient information so that the beneficiary knows of the potential claim or should have inquired about it.

If the beneficiary did not receive such a report, he or she may bring the claim up to two years after the earlier of (1) the trustee's removal, resignation, or death or (2) the termination of the trust or the beneficiary's interest in it.

Reliance on Trust Instrument (§ 78)

Under the bill, a trustee is not liable to a beneficiary for a breach of trust for acting in reasonable reliance on the trust's terms.

Event Affecting Administration or Distribution (§ 79)

Under the bill, a trustee who exercises reasonable care to ascertain

the happening of an event affecting the trust's administration or distribution is not liable for a loss resulting from lack of knowledge. These events include marriage, divorce, performing educational requirements, or death.

Exculpation of Trustee (§ 80)

The bill makes a trust's term relieving a trustee's liability for a breach unenforceable to the extent it (1) relieves liability for a breach committed in bad faith or with reckless indifference to the trust's purposes or beneficiaries' interests or (2) was inserted due to the trustee's abuse of a fiduciary or confidential relationship to the settlor. The bill specifies when such a term drafted by the trustee, or caused to be drafted by the trustee, is deemed an abuse of such relationship.

Beneficiary's Consent, Release, or Ratification (§ 81)

Under the bill, a trustee is not liable for breach of trust if the beneficiary consented to the conduct, released the trustee from liability, or ratified the transaction, unless (1) the consent, release, or ratification was improperly induced or (2) the beneficiary did not know of his or her rights or of the material facts about the breach.

Limitation on Personal Liability of Trustee (§ 82)

Under the bill, unless the contract provides otherwise, a trustee is not personally liable for a contract properly entered into in a fiduciary capacity while administering the trust, if he or she disclosed the fiduciary capacity in the contract.

A trustee is personally liable for torts committed while administering the trust, or obligations arising from owning or controlling the trust property, only if the trustee is personally at fault. The bill specifies that other laws could limit this liability.

The bill allows the trustee to be sued in his or her fiduciary capacity for claims based on such a contract, tort, or obligation, even if the trustee is not personally liable.

Interest as General Partner (§ 83)

Under the bill, unless the contract imposes personal liability, a trustee who holds an interest as a general partner in a general or limited partnership is not personally liable for a contract entered into by the partnership after the trust acquires the interest, if he or she disclosed the fiduciary capacity in a specified manner. A trustee who holds an interest as a general partner is not personally liable for the partnership's torts or for obligations arising from ownership or control of the interest unless the trustee is personally at fault.

But neither immunity applies if the trustee holds a partnership interest in a capacity other than trustee, or if the interest is held by the trustee's spouse or certain other family members.

If the trustee of a revocable trust holds an interest as a general partner, the settlor is personally liable for the partnership's contracts and obligations as if he or she was a general partner.

Protection of Person Dealing with Trustee (§ 84)

Under the bill, someone other than a beneficiary is protected from liability if he or she in good faith assists a trustee, or in good faith and for value, deals with a trustee without knowing that the trustee is improperly exercising his or her powers.

Among other things, the bill provides similar protection to someone who assists or deals with a former trustee without knowing that the trusteeship has terminated.

The bill specifies that comparable protective provisions of other laws relating to commercial transactions or transfer of securities by fiduciaries prevail over the bill's protections.

Certification of Trust (§ 85)

Instead of furnishing a copy of the trust instrument to someone other than a beneficiary, the bill allows the trustee to furnish a certification of trust containing specified information (e.g., the date the trust instrument was executed, the settlor's identity, and the trustee's powers). A certification does not have to contain the trust's

dispositive terms. A recipient may require the trustee to furnish certain excerpts from the instrument.

Among other provisions, the bill provides that someone who:

- 1. acts in reliance upon a certification without knowing that its representations are incorrect is not liable for doing so, and may assume the existence of the facts contained in the certification;
- 2. in good faith, enters into a transaction in reliance upon a certification may enforce the transaction against the trust property as if the representations were correct; and
- makes a demand for the full trust instrument is liable for damages if the court determines that he or she did not act in good faith in demanding it.

§§ 86 & 87 — TRUST CODE: MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Addresses uniformity of interpretation and severability

The bill directs that, in applying and construing this uniform act, consideration be given to the need to promote uniformity of the law with respect to its subject matter among states that enact it.

It also provides that its provisions are severable (i.e., if a provision is held invalid, the other provisions are not affected).

§§ 88-105 — CONNECTICUT UNIFORM DIRECTED TRUST ACT

Outlines the powers and obligations of parties administering directed trusts (i.e., trusts in which a person other than a trustee has a power over the trust's administration)

The bill outlines the powers and obligations of parties administering directed trusts, which are trusts in which a person other than a trustee has a power over some aspect of the trust's administration. Under the bill, this power over a trust held by a nontrustee is called the "power of direction." A "trust director" holds this power. A trustee that is subject to this power is a "directed trustee."

Among other things, the bill's provisions address:

- 1. trust directors' and directed trustees' fiduciary duties,
- 2. information sharing between directed trustees and trust directors,
- 3. the procedure a directed trustee can follow to request clarification from a court as to the trustee's duties,
- 4. settlors' option to subject certain co-trustees to the requirements applicable to directed trustees under the Connecticut Uniform Directed Trust Act, rather than the requirements that apply under the trust code (§ 98);
- 5. bringing suit against a trust director for breach of trust,
- 6. how the trust code (i.e., §§ 1-87) applies to trust directors, and
- 7. the interplay between the bill's provisions and the federal Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act (§§ 104 & 105).

The bill's provisions apply to trusts administered in Connecticut, regardless of whether they are created before or after the provisions' effective date (i.e., October 1, 2018). But with respect to trusts in effect on October 1, 2018, the provisions apply only to decisions made or actions taken after (1) that date or (2) the date that the trust becomes principally administered in Connecticut, whichever applies (§ 89).

Definitions (§ 3)

Under the bill, a trust director, directed trustee, or settlor can be an individual, estate, business organization, government entity, or other similar entity (hereinafter "person").

Trust Director. A nontrustee with power over some aspect of a trust is the "trust director." Under the bill, a person can be a trust director even if (1) the trust does not use the term or (2) the person is a beneficiary or settlor. (Generally, a person that creates, or contributes property to, the trust is the "settlor.")

Directed Trustee. A directed trustee is a trustee who is subject to

the trust director's power of direction.

Power of Direction. These powers over a trust, granted by the terms of the trust to a trust director, can only be exercised by a nontrustee. "Power of direction" may include power over the investment, management, or distribution of trust property or administration of trust matters (e.g., power to direct a trustee's investment). But certain powers are excluded, including the nonfiduciary power of appointment, a settlor's power to revoke a trust, and powers held in a nonfiduciary capacity to achieve a settlor's tax objectives (see § 91).

Trust Director's Powers (§ 92)

Powers. Unless the terms of the trust provide otherwise, a trust director may exercise any further power that is appropriate to the trust director's exercise of express powers granted by a trust's terms (e.g., employing a professional to assist in the exercise of powers; suing a directed trustee who does not comply with the director's instructions).

Under the bill, trust directors with joint powers must act by majority decision.

Trust Director's Duties (§§ 93, 94, & 102)

Fiduciary Duties (§ 94). The bill generally makes trust directors fiduciaries by imposing the same fiduciary duties on them that apply to trustees in a similar position or circumstance (e.g., a director with the power to make investments must act prudently, in the sole interest of the beneficiary). The bill establishes minimum duties, but a trust's terms can impose additional duties.

Other Duties (§ 93). The bill specifically applies to trust directors all the rules applicable to a trustee in a like position and under similar circumstances in two situations: one involving a charitable interest in a trust and the other a Medicaid reimbursement requirement.

Applicable Uniform Trust Code Provisions (§ 102). The bill requires trust directors to comply with certain provisions of the trust

code (i.e., §§ 1-87). Specifically, trust directors must comply with provisions on:

- 1. acceptance of a trusteeship (see § 51),
- 2. performance bonds (see § 52),
- 3. vacancy and appointment of a successor (see § 54),
- 4. resignation (see § 55),
- 5. removal (see § 56), and
- 6. reasonable compensation (see § 58).

Trust Director's Liability (§§ 99-101)

Under the bill, an action against a trust director for breach of trust must be commenced within the same timeframe applicable to an action against a trustee in a similar position or circumstance (see § 77, above). And directors may assert the same defenses that a trustee in a similar position or circumstance may assert (e.g., release or ratification by beneficiary).

Under the bill, by accepting appointment as a trust director of a trust subject to the bill's provisions, the director submits to personal jurisdiction of Connecticut's courts, with respect to matters relating to the director's powers and duties.

Directed Trustee's Duties (§ 95)

Under the bill, a directed trustee (1) must take reasonable action to comply with a trust director's exercise or nonexercise of power, unless compliance would be willful misconduct, and (2) is not liable for complying with a trust director's instruction.

Additionally, the bill:

- 1. imposes limits on a trust director's ability to release a trustee or another director from liability (e.g., when the release was obtained though improper conduct);
- 2. specifies that a trustee may petition the court to clarify the

trustee's duties; and

3. specifies that a trust's terms may impose additional duties on a trustee.

Information Sharing (§§ 96 & 97)

The bill generally requires trustees and trust directors to keep one another informed and answer queries to the extent the relayed information is reasonably related to each party's powers or obligations. Trustees and directors that act in reliance on such information are shielded from liability for breach of trust, unless they engage in willful misconduct.

The bill specifies that it does not require trustees to (1) monitor a trust director or (2) inform or give advice to a settlor, beneficiary, trustee, or trust director when the trustee might have acted differently than the director. Likewise, trust directors do not have either of these obligations with respect to trustees or other directors. If either a trust director or directed trustee chooses to monitor, inform, or give advice, the director or trustee does not assume a continuing obligation to do so.

Uniformity (§ 103)

The bill requires anyone applying or construing the uniform provisions in the Connecticut Uniform Directed Trust Act to give consideration to the need to promote uniformity among the states that have adopted the uniform provisions.

§§ 106-112 — CONNECTICUT QUALIFIED DISPOSITIONS IN TRUST ACT

Sets up a framework for creating self-settled asset protection trusts, the assets of which (1) creditors generally cannot reach and (2) the grantor may still benefit personally from

The bill sets up a framework for creating self-settled asset protection trusts (APT), which are irrevocable trusts, the assets of which (1) creditors generally cannot reach and (2) the grantor may still benefit personally from. (A self-settled trust is an irrevocable trust that includes the settlor as a beneficiary.)

Under the bill, grantors (i.e., "transferors") can make "qualified dispositions" of real property, tangible and intangible personal property, and interests in property to a "qualified trustee," establishing an APT. A disposition is not "qualified" if, among other things, it is made to circumvent state or federal Medicaid laws.

The bill's provisions cover, among other things:

- 1. requirements for creating an APT;
- 2. a grantor's rights to APT property and income;
- 3. allowable creditor claims, including when and to what extent an APT can be nullified;
- 4. how multiple dispositions to the same instrument are treated;
- 5. the procedure for appointing successor trustees; and
- 6. protection for attorneys, trustees, and others involved in creating or administering an APT.

The bill's provisions apply to qualified dispositions made on or after October 1, 2018 (i.e., the bill's effective date).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2018

Qualifying as an APT

The bill establishes criteria an APT must meet to qualify for protection under the bill's provisions. Generally, an APT must:

- 1. expressly state that Connecticut law governs the validity, construction, and administration of the trust;
- 2. contain a spendthrift clause;
- 3. be irrevocable (the bill specifies various circumstances that do not make an APT revocable); and
- 4. appoint a qualified trustee, other than the grantor.

Grantors

The trust instrument must specify the grantor's powers and rights.

The bill lists the powers a grantor may retain under the trust instrument, including the power to veto distributions from the trust. The bill also establishes parameters for grantors' retention of an APT's principal and income. Among other rights, the grantor may retain the right to:

- 1. receive income,
- 2. receive principal as a result of the trustee's exercise of discretion or compliance with an ascertainable standard (including action resulting from a trust advisor's direction), and
- 3. annually receive up to 5% of the value of trust property.

Qualified Trustees

Under the bill, a qualified trustee cannot be the grantor. A qualified trustee must be a (1) Connecticut resident (in the case of a natural person) or (2) state or federally chartered bank or trust company with a place of business in Connecticut, authorized to engage in a trust business. Qualified trustees must maintain some or all of the APT property in Connecticut and meet certain recordkeeping and administrative requirements.

Trust Advisors

Under the bill, a grantor may appoint one or more trust advisors (e.g., trust protectors) who (1) need not qualify as a qualified trustee; (2) may remove and appoint qualified trustees; and (3) may have the power to direct, consent to, or disapprove trust distributions.

Grantors that serve as advisors may only retain the right to veto distributions.

Claims Against Trust Property

The bill generally establishes rules that protect APTs from creditors' claims, including a statute of limitations for claims against trust property. Under the bill, certain types of claims may brought, including claims brought under the Fraudulent Transfer Act and claims resulting from:

1. the grantor's breach of an agreement or court order concerning child support or alimony and

2. death, injury, or property damage for which the grantor is liable.

§ 113 — APPLICABILITY

Establishes rules for the bill's applicability, such as that it generally applies to all trusts no matter when created

The bill establishes rules for applicability of the foregoing provisions (§§ 1-112). For example, unless the bill provides otherwise, it applies to:

- 1. all trusts created before, on, or after October 1, 2018;
- 2. all judicial proceedings concerning trusts begun on or after October 1, 2018; and
- 3. judicial proceedings concerning trusts begun before October 1, 2018, except that if the court finds that applying a particular provision would substantially interfere with the proceeding or prejudice the parties' rights, such provision would not apply.

Among other things, the bill specifies that any act done before October 1, 2018 is not affected by the bill.

§§ 114-116 — CHANGES TO THE RULE AGAINST PERPETUITIES

Limits the application of the common law and statutory rules against perpetuities; changes the name of the Uniform Statutory Rule Against Perpetuities

The common law rule against perpetuities provides that a future interest in property must vest, if at all, within 21 years after the death of a person who was alive when the interest was created. Connecticut's statutory rule, which modifies the common law rule, creates a vesting period of the later of (1) 90 years or (2) 21 years after the death of an individual alive at the time the interest was created (CGS § 45a-491). Generally, if the interest does not vest within these periods, it is void. (The law provides exceptions to the statutory rule (CGS § 45a-494).)

The bill generally limits the application of the statutory rule to trusts created before October 1, 2018, specifically nonvested property interests and any power of appointment created before that date (but see below for an exception). (Under existing law and the bill, the statutory rule applies only to interests and powers created after October 1, 1989.)

Additionally, under the bill, neither the common law nor statutory rule apply to a nonvested property interest or power of appointment that is created after October 1, 2018 if the trustee or other person to whom the power is properly granted or delegated has authority to sell, mortgage, or lease property for a period of time that would invalidate the interest had the trust been subject to the statutory rule. Thus, these interests remain valid even if they do not vest (or fail to vest) within the rules' prescribed periods. However, if no person holds these powers, then the bill applies the statutory rule to the nonvested interest or power of appointment. (Presumably, the common law rule applies to interests created on October 1, 2018.)

The bill also changes the name of the statutory rule (i.e., CGS §§ 45a-490 to -496) from the Uniform Statutory Rule Against Perpetuities to the "Maximum Duration of Trusts" rule.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Yea 41 Nay 0 (04/04/2018)